



Series I

Volume XX

1994

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ARMENIAN

ԴՐԱՄԱԳԻՏԱԿԱՆ

NUMISMATIC

ՀԱՆԴԵՍ

JOURNAL

# ՀԱՅ ԴՐԱՄԱԳԻՏԱԿԱՆ ՀԱՆԴԷՍ

## ARMENIAN NUMISMATIC JOURNAL

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LATEST NEWS

## ANA GLENN SMEDLEY MEMORIAL AWARD

presented to

DR. PAUL Z. BEDOUKIAN

*A collector, distinguished scholar and generous benefactor to numismatics, Paul Bedoukian has spent a lifetime contributing his research and talents to the study of numismatics, specifically more than a dozen books and more than 100 scholarly articles on ancient and medieval numismatics. His prolific writings on ancient and medieval Armenian coinage, Roman coinage, coinage of the Crusades and other topics have opened new horizons in several fields previously beyond the grasp of the average collector. Two of his most important contributions are the Coinage of Cilician Armenia and Coinage of the Artaxiads of Armenia published in 1962 and 1978, respectively. These trailblazing works have been and will continue to be of great assistance to collectors.*

*A member of the ANA, the American Numismatic Society, the Royal Numismatic Society, the Society Francaise de Numismatique and the Armenian Numismatic Society, Paul Bedoukian has generously donated more than 5,000 of his coins to museums in Europe, the United States and Armenia. In 1978 he donated about 200 medieval Armenian coins to the Money Museum of the ANA, and has contributed to the ANS, Harvard University, the Smithsonian Institution and Columbia University, among others.*

*For his gifts to the numismatic hobby and his devotion to serving and educating the collector, the American Numismatic Association is proud to present its Glenn Smedley Memorial Award to Dr. Paul Z. Bedoukian on July 31, 1993 in Baltimore, Maryland.*

Edward Rochette  
President

Robert J. Leuver  
Executive Director

## LETTERS

Մոսկուայի Հասցեով առաջուած Ձեր 17-7-1993 թ. նամակը ստացայ 6-8-1993 թ. սական այն փաստը, որ նամակը չկորեց և թիկուղ ուղարկուով, բայց իմ ձեռքը հասաւ, շատ ուրախացրեցի:

Կարգավիճակը մենք չդիտեցինք, որ եղաք զգալուն Մուշեղեան ընտանիքի Հանդէպ, Ձեր ցաւակցութիւնը յայտնելով մեզ: Ընդունէք բոլորիս մանաւանդ մայրիկիս շնորհակալութիւնը Ձեր ուղարկութեան համար:

Միքիլի Եղիա Ներսիսեան 1992 թ. Հայ դրամագիտութեան համար եղաւ կորուստի տարի Ապստո Տօնապետեանի, Մեծորդ Արգարեանցի մահուան լուրերը ինձ նոյնպէս վշտացրին, իրաւ Հայ դրամագիտութեան մշակները ծանր հարուած հասցրին դրամագիտութեանը, վստահ եմ, որ եթէ Հայրա լինեի կենդանի, որքան պիտի վշտանար և ինքը նոյնպէս խորը կակիծով իր սրտի ձայնը կը յայտնէր նրանց:

Սակայն այսօր, մենք կենդանիներս մեր ձայնը և զլուրը խոնարհուած ենք Տօնապետեանին, Արգարեանցին և Մուշեղեանին: Մենք չդիտեցինք, որ Ձեր նամակից տեղեկացանք, որ Դուք նախաձեռնել էք նման շնորհակալ աշխատանք սատար կանգնելով Մուշեղեանի յիշատակին:

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Աւելի բարի և զեղեցիկ քալլ Դուք չէիք կարող անել, որի համար մենք չէ, որ պիտի դատենք: Այդ նախաձեռնութիւնը, որ Դուք որոշել էք կազմակերպել Զարեհ Պտուկեանի հետ միասին, նորին ապացոյց կը դառնայ այն բարի աւանդոյթներին համար, երբ համայնոհները փոխադարձ տուրք են տալիս մէկ մէկու գնահատելով իւրաքանչիւրին ըստ արժանւոյն:

Այն հարցերի, թէ ինչպէս կազմակերպուեց հայրիկի մահուան արարողութիւնը նախ և առաջ յայտնեմ Ձեզ, որ շատ ծանր էր այն պահը, երբ նա սկսեց իրեն վատ զգար Բնակարանում ցուրտ էր, լոյս չկար, հեռախօսն անխտել էին կենտրոնից լոյսի բացակայութեան պատճառով, որի հետեւանքով շտապ օգնութեան կանչումը բաւական ուշացումով եղաւ: Եւ այսօր ինձ մօտ կանգնած կայ, որ եթէ թփփշները շուտ տեղ հասնէին, գուցէ փրկէին հիւանդին:

Երջանակումը, որ ստեղծուել էր քաղաքական իրաւիճակից զրկել էր մարդկանց միմիմալ բոլոր պայմաններէից, ու այդ ծանր ժամանակահատուածում մենք կորցրեցինք հայրիկիս:

Բժիշկներ մեզ յայտնեցին, որ նա կրում էր սրտի անբաւարարութիւն և սկիւրոզ ու այդ բոլորը հասել էր այն մակարդակի, որ միեւնոյն է նրան օգնել հնարաւոր չէր: Սակայն պէտք է յայտնեմ, որ կրելով այդ հիւանդութիւնը, հայրս ամէն ինչ շատ լաւ յիշում էր և միեւն վերջին օրը գիրքն ու մատիթը ձեռքին կարդում էր: Աշխատելու տենչը այնքան ուժեղ էր, որ խիստ զայրանում էր և չէր կարող հաշտուել նրան, որ չէր կարող քայլել և որ շատ շուտ մտաւոր յուզում էր: Այդ երկու պարագաները շատ էին խնդհացնում իրեն և միայն այդ ժամանակ յոռուհատ դիմում էր մեզ Վիթէ չկայ մի ղեղամիջոց, որ կարողանած քայլել և երկար ժամանակ աշխատելու ժամանակին ոչ ճիշտ բուժման կազմակերպումը մեզ հանգեցրեց այս վիճակի, որ 73 տարեկան հասակում կորցրեցինք հայրիկիս: Սակայն չմեղադրենք ոչ մէկին, ապաւինինք Աստուծոյ, որ կամեցաւ նրան տալ այդքան տարուայ կեանք, որ պարզեց, սովորեց, պարզեցումում մասնակցեց, ընտանիք կազմեց, ստեղծագործեց և թողրեց հիմնաւոր աշխատանքներն էր: Այս դրամագիտութեան մէջ: Ստեղծեց դրամագիտութեան բաժին, ամէն մի դրամի, դանձի ձեռքբերման համար, կրակների ու բոցերի մէջ կեանքի գնով պայքարեց:

1992 թ. Նոյեմբերի 5-ին լուսադէմին մեր ձեռքերում ճրագի նման հանգեց հայրս թանկագին: Մահուան արարողութիւնը կազմակերպեց Հայաստանի Գիտութեան Ակադեմիան: Ձեռքած այդ օրուայ ցուրտ ձիւնախառն օդին, կարծես թէ եղանակաւ էլ էր սղում հայրիկին: Այսուհանդերձ թաղումը կազմակերպուեց ըստ իր ինչդրանքի՝ համեստ և պատշաճ:

Հեռագրեր ստացուեցին Մոսկուայի, Լենինգրադի, Վրաստանի թանգարանների դրամագիտական կենտրոններից: Բանի որ Ակադեմիան ինքն էր նախաձեռնել թաղման արարողութիւնը, ինքն էլ տեղեակ էր պահել այդ հաստատութիւններին:

Ամենայն հայոց կաթողիկոս Վազգէն Ա-ը ուղարկեց իր ցաւակցական հեռագրերը նշելով այն մեծ վատասակը, որ ունեցան Մուշեղեանը կաթողիկոսեան մէջ և իր օգնական ձեռքը մեկնեց նաև Ս. Էջմիածին:

ԳԱ Պատմութեան Ինստիտուտի և Հնագիտութեան Ինստիտուտի ներկայացուցիչները վերջինիս տնօրէն շննգուցաւ Գէորգ Տիրացեանը, իրենց դամբանականը կարդացին հայրիկին յիշատակին նշելով այն մեծ վատասակը, որ նա ունեցաւ դրամագիտութեան մէջ: Հայ դրամագիտութիւնը ինչ-որ տեղ որբացած ինչպէս վերջինս ասուեց թաղման ժամանակ:

Ակադեմիայի միջնորդութեամբ գերեզմանը յատկացուեց մեր ցանկացած տեղում: Մայիս ամսից սկսել ենք անմիջական աշխատանքներ կատարել հայրիկի չիբիմի դրաք: Պատրաստում է տապանաքար, որի աստուտ լինելը պիտի ցանկանք տեսնել մահուան տարիքիցին:

Պատմութեան Պետական Թանգարանի տնօրէն Ար. Շահնազարեանի անմիջական կարգադրութեամբ երկու չարաք թանգարանի ուսուցիչ կենտրոնական սրահում դրուեց Մուշեղեանի մեծ ծաղուած լուսանկարը, որպէս յարգանքի տուրք: ԳԱ Պատմութեան Ինստիտուտի և Թանգարանի ինչպատակիցները Երեւոյնում Երևան թերթում տպագրեցին կարճ կենսագրական յօդուած թէ ինչպիսի կեանք է անցել դրամագէտը:

Իսկ ինչ վերաբերում է, թէ որ թուականին է հայրս ամուսնացել, ապա 1948 թ. Փետրուարին նա հանդիպեց Անուշ Պետրոսեանին, որը մասնագիտութեամբ ինժեներ էր: Ամուսնանալով նրանք ընտանիք կազմեցին ու մեկնեցին Լենինգրադ որտեղ Մուշեղեանը պէտք է շարունակեր մասնագիտական ուսումը: Այդ օրուանից մայրս նուիրուեց հօր, օգնեց, աստար կանգնեց բոլոր դժուարութիւններին, որպէսզի իր կեանքի ընկերը ուսում գտար, մասնագիտութիւն ձեռք բերէ և իր գիտելիքներով, հպարտութիւն պարգևէ իր ընտանիքի անդամներին: Ապրեցին նրանք այդպէս 45 տարի կողք-կողքի, կիսելով կեանքի բոլոր դժուարութիւնները, թէ օտարութեան մէջ, թէ հայրենիքում:

Միքիլի Եղիա Ներսէսեան չորհակալ եմ որ Հայ դրամագիտական Համընդի երկու օրինակը ստացաք, որին սպասում էի մեծ անհամբերութեամբ: Կարդացի յօդուածները մեծ հետաքրքրութեամբ: Շատ չորհակալ և ուրախ կը լինեմ, եթէ դրամագիտական նորոյթներին Ձեր կողմից հնարաւորին չափ տեղեակ լինեմ: Այսօր դրամագիտութիւնը միակ ապագայն է, որտեղ ես գտնուեմ եմ հոգեկան միջոցաւ և դրանով իսկ կարօտս վերցնում իմ հայրիկից: Ուրախ և հպարտ եմ Ձեզ համար, որ այդքան կարեւոր և զեղեցիկ աշխատանք եք կատարել: 1) Մտտեւնադրութեան Բ. Շատուրը, 2) Armenian Cons and Their Values, բայց տխրեցի, որ Դուք էլ ունէք պրոբլեմներ... —

Anahit Mousheghian  
Yerevan

## A «HOARD» OF SILVER COINS OF TIGRANES II

Plates I-IV

Y. T. NERCESSIAN

### Introduction

Western scholars, based on Roman sources, were familiar with Tigranes the Great. As early as 1664, title of King Tigranes of Armenia was mentioned<sup>1</sup> by Ezechiel Spanhem; in 1671, a tetradrachm of Tigranes was published for the first time.<sup>2</sup> There are at least two good reasons why this coin was published first. Among the coinage of the Artaxiad dynasty, as well as among the coinage of Tigranes the Great, the silver tetradrachm is the most common coin and the most coveted by the collectors because of its beauty, size, and overall eye appeal. According to historian and numismatist Jacques de Morgan, the tetradrachm of Tigranes the Great is one of the finest numismatic treasures of Asia.<sup>3</sup>

Tigranes II, son of Tigranes I, was taken hostage to Parthia when Armenia failed in the struggle against the incursion of Parthia. When Tigranes I died in 95 B.C., Tigranes II was freed in return for "seventy valleys" which the Parthians demanded as ransom.<sup>4</sup>

Tigranes, while he was a hostage, mastered well the art of combat, conquest, and politics. He married one of the daughters of Mithridates VI Eupator of Pontus, annexed Armenia Minor (Sophene) to Armenia Major, recaptured the "seventy valleys" that he had ceded to Parthia, occupied Mesopotamia, and was "invited" to rule Syria, Lebanon, and Palestine.<sup>5</sup>

The "King of Kings" Tigranes had a vast empire and a newly constructed capital, Tigranocerta, at the geographic center of his empire. His coins were struck in several mints: Artaxata, Tigranocerta, Antioch, Damascus, and others. All numismatists agree that tetradrachms displaying the Tyche of Antioch with ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ ΤΙΓΡΑΝΟΥ inscription were issued in the mint of Antioch between 83-69 B.C.

Tigranes occupied and controlled all the local mints which had issued very attractive coins according to the Seleucid tradition. The mint of Antioch was famous for striking silver tetradrachms. The coinage of Tigranes also includes silver drachms, where on the reverse side the Tyche of Artaxata is depicted. The consensus is that all silver drachms displaying the Tyche of Artaxata and with the inscription ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΝ ΤΙΓΡΑΝΟΥ were issued at the mint of Artaxata.

Additionally, he issued numerous types of copper coins where the reverses display Tyche, Heracles, Nike, cornucopiae, palm-branch, and other types. However, his silver tetradrachm is the coin which always graces the pages of numismatic books as a splendid example of portrait art.<sup>6</sup>

<sup>1</sup> E. Spanhem, *Dissertatio de praestantia et usu numismatum antiquorum* (Rome, 1664), pp. 115, 132, 137.

<sup>2</sup> E. Spanhem, *Dissertationes de praestantia et usu numismatum antiquorum* (Amsterdam, 1671), Vol. I, pp. 454-457.

<sup>3</sup> J. de Morgan, *The History of the Armenian People* (English translation, Boston, 1965), p. 98.

<sup>4</sup> Hay zhoghovrdi patmut'yun [History of the Armenian People], Vol. I (Yerevan, 1971), p. 556 (in Armenian).

<sup>5</sup> *ibid.*, Vol. I, p. 558-565.

<sup>6</sup> E. T. Newell, *Royal Greek Portrait Coins* (Racine, WI, 1937), pp. 56-59; G. K. Jenkins, *Ancient Greek Coins* (New York, 1972), pp. 271, fig. 663-664; J. Babelon, *Le portrait dans l'antiquité d'après les monnaies* (Paris, 1950), p. 197, pl. VII, No. 7; et al.

In his pioneering, comprehensive and systematic corpus, *Coinage of the Artaxiads of Armenia*, Paul Z. Bedoukian catalogues about 200 tetradrachms and about 80 drachms of Tigranes the Great which can safely be assigned to the mints of Antioch and Artaxata, respectively.<sup>7</sup> Here Bedoukian classifies 36 different varieties of tetradrachms and 39 varieties of drachms based on their obverse portraits and reverse monograms. Bedoukian's corpus draws on the specimens found in museums, private collections, and sale and auction catalogues. The majority of the tetradrachms in his corpus (more than 2/3) are classified under Nos. 17, 19, 20, and 21. Among all published scholarship on the coinage of Tigranes the Great, Bedoukian's study is the most detailed and orderly. Nevertheless, many topics are unexplained and many questions remain unanswered. Continued research is needed to elucidate questions such as, chronology, monograms and field letters and other questions to the satisfactions of numismatists.

### Comments on the «Hoard»

A recently discovered hoard of Tigranes silver coins, reached the numismatic community (1990). According to reliable sources,<sup>8</sup> the hoard numbered about 80 pieces. Because of the secrecy involved with numismatic hoards, the exact provenance of this hoard remains unknown. Furthermore, before any data was retrieved and recorded, the hoard was dispersed to various classical coin dealers and collectors.

The present effort is an attempt to circumvent this unconcerned attitude. If Armenian numismatic knowledge is to be enlarged, data from hoards and large accumulations must be obtained and analyzed. Numismatic auction and sale catalogues available to this compiler were reviewed for silver coins of Tigranes II and collectors who may have possibly purchased them were contacted to prepare this classification. There is no certainty that all coins listed in this classification are from this alleged "hoard," and some have undoubtedly been missed. Regardless of these shortcomings, the information presented in this catalogue will enhance our numismatic knowledge since the presented "hoard" includes a new portrait, many new monograms, field letters and their combinations.

The list does not exhaust all Tigranes silver coin specimens which have appeared recently on the market. Numerous others have been noticed at coin shows and there may be other sale and auction catalogues unknown to us. Unfortunately, data on these coins could not be obtained. Suffice it to say that none of the coins excluded from our catalogue have new die varieties; basically they do not differ from those compiled here.

### Cataloguing the «Hoard»

The "hoard" was classified according to the scheme of Paul Z. Bedoukian's *Coinage of the Artaxiads of Armenia*, where 36 different varieties of Antioch tetradrachms and 39 Artaxata drachms are classified. All of the coins presented are assumed to belong to this "hoard" and are classified in the catalogue. In Table I, the first column in the catalogue gives the assigned specimen number. The second column references Bedoukian's corpus number. When required, the obverse and reverse of two Bedoukian corpus numbers are combined to offer the best illustrative and descriptive reference. The third column gives the reverse legend. The fourth column is the weight of the coin. The columns five and six provide reverse field letters and monograms, respectively. The seventh column indicates the group letter to which the coin is assigned. Columns eight and nine give the obverse and reverse die varieties (odd numbers to the obverse and even numbers to the reverse). The last column notes the source where the coin is preserved or was catalogued originally for sale or auction. The drachms are listed separately in Table II with a simplified format since all coins are different from each other. Most coins are

<sup>7</sup> P. Z. Bedoukian, *Coinage of the Artaxiads of Armenia* [henceforth CAA] (London, 1978), Nos. 16-48, 50-87.









<sup>8</sup> L. A. Saryan, "Three Unreported Tetradrachms of Tigranes the Great," *Armenian Numismatic Journal*, Series I, Vol. XVIII (1992), No. 2, pp. 37-38.

illustrated in the plates (not illustrated: Nos. 3a, 23a, 33, 38a, 47, 48, 56a, 72, 72a, 74, 77a).<sup>9</sup>

The tetradrachms are grouped into thirteen basic categories according to their obverse portraits and tiara peaks, and their reverse monograms and field letters. The drachms are classified into nine groups.

## DESCRIPTION OF COIN TYPES

### Tetradrachms

- A1 Obv.: Bust of Tigranes with a boyish portrait draped right, clean shaven and wearing ornate five-pointed Armenian tiara. The five peaks of tiara are made of two stones. A broad diadem knotted at the back encircles the head and falls downward. Divided drape cover the ear and the neck. The tiara is adorned with an eight-rayed star flanked by two eagles back to back but with their heads turned to each other. Fillet border.  
 Rev.: Tyche of Antioch, draped and wearing a turreted crown, seated right on a rock, holding a palm-branch in her right hand; at her feet the upper portion of a youthful male nude figure of the river-god Orontes swimming right. Legend to right downward ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ; to left downward ΤΙΓΡΑΝΟΥ. Field letter Α to right of palm-branch. Monogram  on rock. Laurel wreath border.
- A2 Obv.: Similar to A1, young man portrait.  
 Rev.: Similar to A1.
- B1 Obv.: Similar to A1, young man portrait.  
 Rev.: Similar to A1, letter Θ in right field, monogram  on the rock.
- B2 Obv.: Similar to A1, mature portrait.  
 Rev.: Similar to B1.
- C Obv.: Similar to A1, young man portrait but the tiara has five triangular peaks.  
 Rev.: Similar to A1, monogram  in right field, monogram  on the rock.
- D1 Obv.: Similar to A1, mature portrait.  
 Rev.: Similar to A1, no field letter, monogram  on the rock.
- D2 Obv.: Similar to D1.  
 Rev.: Similar to A1, ribbon attached to the hand holding palm-branch, no field letter, monogram  on the rock.
- E1 Obv.: Similar to A1, mature portrait, tiara has five triangular peaks.  
 Rev.: Similar to A1, ribbon attached to the hand holding palm-branch, no field letter, monogram  on the rock.
- E2 Obv.: Similar to E1.  
 Rev.: Similar to A1, no ribbon, no field letter, monogram  on the rock.
- F Obv.: Similar to A1, young man portrait, tiara has five triangular peaks and the star has six rays.

<sup>9</sup> My thanks are due to J. Guevrekian, L. Saryan, N. Jamgochian†, G. Beach, C. Hajinian for making their coins available to be photographed and catalogued, also to J. Buchaklian for photographing several coins. I would like also to extend my thanks to Classical Numismatic Group, Inc. (CNA, CR), Gerhard Hirsch (GH), Numismatic Fine Arts International, Inc. (NFA), classical coin dealers from whose sale and auction catalogues numerous coins were photographed.



- Rev.: Similar to A1, no field letter, monogram  $\Sigma$  on the rock.
- G1 Obv.: Similar to A1, young man portrait, receding chin, small sharp pointed nose, lack of pupil of eye, tiara has five very high triangular peaks.  
Rev.: Similar to A1, monogram  $\mathcal{P}$  in right field, no monogram on the rock.
- G2 Obv.: Similar to G1.  
Rev.: Similar to G1, monogram  $\mathcal{V}$  in right field, no monogram on the rock.
- H Obv.: Similar to A1, mature portrait, tiara has five triangular peaks.  
Rev.: Similar to A1, monogram  $\mathcal{H}$  in right field, monogram + on the rock.
- I Obv.: Similar to A1, mature and handsome portrait, the tiara has five triangular peaks.  
Rev.: Similar to A1, monogram H in right field and \*, Δ, M in the left field.
- J Obv.: Similar to A1, mature portrait, the tiara peak has two stones.  
Rev.: Similar to A1, no field letter, letter o on the rock.
- K1 Obv.: Similar to A1, mature portrait, the tiara peak has two stones.  
Rev.: Similar to A1, no field letter, monograms  $\oplus$ ,  $\Sigma$  on the rock.
- K2 Obv.: Similar to K1  
Rev.: Similar to K1, ribbon attached to the hand holding palm-branch, (dot) . in the right field, monogram  $\oplus$  on the rock.
- L Obv.: Similar to A1, mature portrait, the tiara peak has two stones.  
Rev.: Similar to A1, letter Θ in right field, monogram  $\mathcal{H}$  on the rock.
- M1 Obv.: Similar to A1, young man portrait, the tiara peak has two stones.  
Rev.: Similar to A1, no field letter, letters A, M on the rock.
- M2 Obv.: Similar to M1.  
Rev.: Similar to A1, no field letter, letter A on the rock.
- Drachms**
- a Obv.: Bust of Tigranes with five-pointed Armenian tiara. A line upward from 5 o'clock ray of the eight-pointed star gives the appearance of a comet on the tiara. Border of dots.  
Rev.: Tyche of Antioch, draped and wearing a turreted crown, seated right on a rock, holding a palm-branch in her right hand; at her feet the upper portion of a youthful male nude figure of the river-god Orontes swimming right. Legend to right downward ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ; to left downward ΤΙΓΡΑΝΟΥ. In the right field  $\alpha$ . Laurel wreath border.
- b Obv.: Bust of Tigranes with five-pointed Armenian tiara. The five peaks of tiara are made of high triangles. The tiara is adorned with an eight-rayed star flanked by two eagles back to back but with their heads turned to each other. Border of dots.  
Rev.: Tyche of Artaxata, draped and wearing a turreted crown, seated right on a rock, holding a palm-branch in her right hand; at her feet the upper portion of a youthful male nude figure of the river-god Araxes swimming right. Legend to right downward ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ; to left downward ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΝ / ΤΙΓΡΑΝΟΥ. Letters, EA, Δ.
- c Obv.: Similar to b.

Rev.: Similar to b. Letters, EA, Θ.

d Obv.: Similar to b.  
Rev.: Similar to b. Letters, ζA, H, EK.

e Obv.: Similar to b.  
Rev.: Similar to b. Letters, ζA, H, EC.





























f Obv.: Similar to b.  
Rev.: Similar to b. Letters, ζA, I, EC.


















g Obv.: Similar to b.  
Rev.: Similar to b. Letters, ζA, A, EC.

h Obv.: Similar to b.  
Rev.: Similar to b. Letters, ζA, EC.

i Obv.: Similar to b.  
Rev.: Similar to b. No visible letters.

Table I. Catalogue of tetradrachms

No	CAA	Reverse Legend	Wt	FL	MG	Gr	Obv/Rev	Die	Source
01	19/17	ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ ΤΙΓΡΑΝΟΥ	16.37	A		A1	01	02	YN
02	19/17	ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ ΤΙΓΡΑΝΟΥ	15.82	A		A1	03	04	LS
03	19/17	ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ ΤΙΓΡΑΝΟΥ	15.28	A		A1	03	06	CNA XV-247
03a	19/17	ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ ΤΙΓΡΑΝΟΥ	15.63	A		A1	03	08	CNA XXVII-6
04	19/17	ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ ΤΙΓΡΑΝΟΥ	15.18	A		A1	05	10	LS
05	19/17	[B]ΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ ΤΙΓΡΑΝΟΥ	15.66	A		A1	05	12	LS
06	19/17	ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩ[Σ] ΤΙΓΡΑΝΟΥ	15.35	A		A1	07	12	CR XVIII-2-132
07	19/17	ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ ΤΙΓΡΑΝΟΥ	15.45	A		A1	09	14	CH
08	19/17	ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ ΤΙΓΡΑΝΟΥ	14.93	A		A1	09	16	CNA XIV-197
09	19/17	[B]ΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ ΤΙΓΡΑΝΟΥ	15.28	A		A1	09	02	CNA XXV-387
10	19/17	ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ [T]ΙΓΡΑΝΟΥ	15.63	A		A2	11	18	YN
11	19/17	ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ ΤΙΓΡΑΝΟ[Y]	15.53	A		A2	13	20	GH 173-495
12	19/17	ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ ΤΙΓΡΑΝΟΥ	15.32	A		A2	15	22	CH
13	19/17	ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ ΤΙΓΡΑΝΟΥ	15.56	A		A2	15	22	LS
14	19/17	ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩ[Σ] ΤΙΓΡΑΝΟΥ	15.49	A		A2	15	22	YN
15	19/17	ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ ΤΙΓΡΑΝΟΥ	15.08	A		A2	17	24	YN
16	19/17	ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ ΤΙΓΡΑΝΟΥ	15.08	A		A2	19	26	CH
17	18/19	ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ ΤΙΓΡΑΝΟΥ	15.59	Θ		B1	21	28	YN
obverse, double strike on forehead and nose									
18	18/19	ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩ[Σ] ΤΙΓΡΑΝΟΥ	15.08	Θ		B1	21	30	YN
19	18/19	[B]ΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ ΤΙΓΡΑΝΟΥ	15.46	Θ		B1	23	32	CNA XX-171
20	18/19	ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ ΤΙΓΡΑΝΟΥ	15.39	Θ		B1	25	34	YN
21	18/19	ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ ΤΙΓΡΑΝΟΥ	15.19	Θ		B1	27	36	LS
22	18/19	ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩ[Σ] ΤΙΓΡΑΝΟΥ	15.33	Θ		B1	29	38	NFA XXXI-292
23	18/19	ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩ[Σ] ΤΙΓΡΑΝΟΥ	15.79	Θ		B1	29	40	NFA XXXI-291
23a	18/19	ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ ΤΙΓΡΑΝΟΥ	15.40	Θ		B1	29	42	CNA XXVII-8
24	18/19	ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ ΤΙΓΡΑΝΟΥ	15.54	Θ		B2	31	44	NFA XXXI-290
25	18/19	ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ ΤΙΓΡΑΝΟΥ	15.58	Θ		B2	33	46	YN
26	18/19	ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ ΤΙΓΡΑΝΟΥ	15.48	Θ		B2	33	46	YN

No	CAA	Reverse Legend	Wt	FL	MG	Gr	Obv/Rev Die	Source
27	18/19	[B]ΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ ΤΙΓΡΑΝΟΥ	15.55	Θ		B2	33 48	CNA XVI-203
28	18/19	[B]ΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ ΤΙΓΡΑΝΟΥ	15.42	Θ		B2	35 50	JG
29	20/41V	ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ ΤΙΓΡΑΝΟΥ	15.63	Φ	†	C	37 52	YN
30	20/41V	ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ ΤΙΓΡΑΝΟΥ	15.62	Φ	†	C	37 54	YN
31	20/41V	ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ ΤΙΓΡΑΝ[ΟΥ]	15.22	Φ	†	C	39 56	YN
32	20/41V	ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩ[Σ] ΤΙΓΡΑΝΟΥ	15.10	Φ	†	C	39 56	LS
33	20/41V	[B]ΑΣΙΛΕΩ[Σ] ΤΙΓΡΑΝΟΥ	14.27	Φ	†	C	41 58	LS
34	20/41V	ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ ΤΙΓΡΑΝΟΥ	14.23	Φ	†	C	43 60	LS
35	20/41V	ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ ΤΙΓΡΑΝΟΥ	—	Φ	†	C	43 62	CCE IV 93-8
36	35/41V	ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ ΤΙΓΡΑΝΟΥ	16.02	Φ	†	C	45 64	NFA XXXI-294
37	35/41V	ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ ΤΙΓΡΑΝΟΥ	15.96	Φ	†	C	45 66	NFA XXXI-293
38	35/41V	[B]ΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ ΤΙΓΡΑΝΟΥ	—	Φ	†	C	45 68	TC 98-666
38a	35/41V	ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ ΤΙΓΡΑΝΟΥ	15.58	Φ	†	C	47 70	CNA XXVII-9
39	22/23	ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ ΤΙΓΡΑΝΟΥ reverse, double strike	15.50		Σ	D1	49 72	GH 175-517
40	22/23	ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ ΤΙΓΡΑΝΟΥ	15.42		Σ	D1	51 74	GH 173-496
41	22	[B]ΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ ΤΙΓΡΑΝΟΥ	15.31		Σ	D2	53 76	GH 171-435
42	22	ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩ[Σ] ΤΙΓΡΑΝΟΥ	15.31		Σ	D2	55 78	JG
43	23V/21	ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ [Τ]ΙΓΡΑΝΟΥ	15.38		Σ	E1	57 80	YN
44	23V	ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩ[Σ] ΤΙΓΡΑΝΟΥ	15.60		Σ	E2	57 82	YN
45	23V	ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ ΤΙΓΡΑΝΟΥ	15.43		Σ	E2	57 84	GH 174-371
46	23V	ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ ΤΙΓΡΑΝΟΥ	15.40		Σ	E2	57 84	Ph
47	23	ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ ΤΙΓΡΑΝΟΥ obverse, diadem has design and ornaments	15.61		Σ	E2	59 86	SNC 92 7007
48	22/23	ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ ΤΙΓΡΑΝΟΥ	14.95		Σ	E2	61 88	CH
49	22V/23	ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ ΤΙΓΡΑΝΟΥ obverse, tiara has six-pointed star, oddity	15.26		Σ	F	63 90	LS
50	24	[B]ΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ ΤΙΓΡΑΝΟΥ	16.21			G1	65 92	GH 175-519
51	24	[B]ΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ ΤΙΓΡΑΝΟΥ	15.44			G1	65 92	CR XVI-1-136
52	24	ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ ΤΙΓΡΑΝΟΥ	15.36			G1	65 92	JG
53	24	ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ ΤΙΓΡΑΝΟΥ	15.86			G1	65 94	NJ
54	24	ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩ[Σ] ΤΙΓΡΑΝΟΥ	15.48			G1	65 96	JG
55	24	ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ ΤΙΓΡΑΝΟΥ	15.77			G1	65 98	EW Spr 93-76
56	24	ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ ΤΙΓΡΑΝΟΥ	15.82			G1	65 100	HL 64-303
56a	24	ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ ΤΙΓΡΑΝΟΥ	15.89			G1	65 102	CNA XXVII-7
57	25	ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ ΤΙΓΡΑΝΟΥ	15.98			G2	65 104	NFA XXXI-176
58	25	ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ ΤΙΓΡΑΝΟΥ	15.59			G2	65 104	YN
59	26	ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ ΤΙΓΡΑΝΟΥ	15.21		+	H	67 106	JG
60	29V	[B]ΑΣΙΛΕΩ[Σ] ΤΙΓΡΑΝΟΥ reverse, traces of double strike visible	15.56	*Δ,Μ,Η		I	69 108	YN
61	29V	ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ ΤΙΓΡΑΝΟΥ	14.39	*Δ,Μ,Η		I	69 108	YN
62	33	ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ ΤΙΓΡΑΝΟΥ	15.68		ο,Σ	J	71 110	NFA XXVIII-760
63	33V	[B]ΑΣΙΛΕΩ[Σ] [Τ]ΙΓΡΑΝΟΥ	15.37		Σ	K1	71 112	CNA XX-173
64	33V	ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩ[Σ] ΤΙΓΡΑΝ[ΟΥ]	15.07		Σ	K1	73 114	LS
65	33V	[B]ΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ ΤΙΓΡΑΝΟΥ	15.26		Σ	K2	73 116	LS
66	34	[B]ΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ ΤΙΓΡΑΝΟΥ	15.02	Θ		L	75 118	CNA XVIII-194
67	28V	[B]ΑΣΙΛΕΩ[Σ] ΤΙΓΡΑΝΟΥ	15.89		A, M	M1	77 120	Tkalec 1992-15



No	CAA	Reverse Legend	Wt	FL	MG	Gr	Obv/Rev Die	Source
68	28V	[B]ΑΣΙΑΕΩΣ ΤΙΓΡΑΝΟΥ	15.86		A,M	M1	77	120 NFA XXVII-76
69	28V	[B]ΑΣΙΑΕΩΣ ΤΙΓΡΑΝΟΥ	15.46		A,M	M1	77	120 YN
70	28V	[B]ΑΣΙΑΕΩΣ ΤΙΓΡΑΝΟΥ	15.83		A	M2	77	122 CNA XX-172
71	28V	ΒΑΣΙΑΕΩΣ ΤΙΓΡΑΝΟΥ	15.18		A	M2	77	122 YN
72	28	ΒΑΣΙΑΕΩΣ ΤΙΓΡΑΝΟΥ	15.49		A	M2	77	122 LS
72a	28	[B]ΑΣΙΑΕΩΣ [Τ]ΙΓΡΑΝΟΥ	15.58		A	M2	77	122 CNA XXVII-10
73	28V	[B]ΑΣΙΑΕΩΣ ΤΙΓΡΑΝΟΥ	15.74		A	M2	77	124 GH 175-518

Table II. Catalogue of drachms

No	CAA	Reverse Legend	Wt	FL	Gr	Source
74	49	ΒΑΣΙΑΕΩΣ ΤΙΓΡΑΝΟΥ obverse, comet star on tiara	3.99	○	a	NFA XXV-216
75	60	ΒΑΣΙΑΕΩΣ ΒΑΣΙΑΕΩΝ ΤΙΓΡΑΝΟΥ	3.93	ΕΛΔ	b	YN
76	64V	ΒΑΣΙΑΕΩΣ ΒΑΣΙΑΕΩΝ ΤΙΓΡΑΝΟΥ	3.74	ΕΛΘ	c	YN
77	75V	ΒΑΣΙΑΕΩΣ ΒΑΣΙΑΕΩΝ ΤΙΓΡΑΝΟΥ	3.92	ζΑ,Η,ΞΚ	d	GH 173-497
77a	75	ΒΑΣΙΑΕΩΣ ΒΑΣΙΑΕΩΝ ΤΙΓΡΑΝΟΥ	4.15	ζΑ,Η,ΞΕ	e	CNA XXVII-11
78	76	ΒΑΣΙΑΕΩΣ ΒΑΣΙΑΕΩΝ ΤΙΓΡΑΝΟΥ	4.13	ζΑ,Ι,ΞΕ	f	JG
79	78V	ΒΑΣΙΑΕΩΣ ΒΑΣΙΑΕΩΝ ΤΙΓΡΑΝΟΥ	3.76	ζΑ,Λ,ΞΕ	g	YN
80	83	ΒΑΣΙΑΕΩΣ ΒΑΣΙΑΕΩΝ ΤΙΓΡΑΝΟΥ	4.00	ζΑ,ΞΕ	h	YN
81	87	ΒΑΣΙΑΕΩΣ ΒΑΣΙΑΕΩΝ ΤΙΓΡΑΝΟΥ	3.80	none	i	GH 163-495

### Metrology of Silver Coins

The metrology of silver coins of Tigranes the Great is straightforward: generally, weight of the tetradrachms varies from 15 to 16 grams. This is eloquently demonstrated in Table III; 68 of the 76 tetradrachms (90 %), vary between 15.01 and 16.00 grams. The drachms, one-fourth of the weight of the tetradrachm, vary between 3.74 and 4.15 grams. The average weight of a tetradrachm of the "hoard" under discussion is 15.44 grams and the drachm, 3.93 grams.

Table III. Weight distribution of tetradrachms

Type	14.00	14.26	14.51	14.76	15.01	15.26	15.51	15.76	16.01	16.26	Total
A				1	3	6	5	1		1	17
B					2	6	4	1			13
C	1	1			2		3	1	1		9
D						4					4
E						3	2				5
F				1		1					2
G						3	1	5	1		10
H					1						1
I		1					1				2
J							1				1
K					1	2					3
L					1						1
M					2	1	2	3			8
<b>Total</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>		<b>2</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>76</b>

### Die Study

King Tigranes is portrayed on the obverse side of all his coins and Tyche is depicted on the reverses of his silver coins presented in this "hoard." Coin Nos. 62 and 63 (Groups J and K), die No. 71, could be considered an exception. Except for these two coins, there are no identical coins between two groups. In an individual group there are many coins struck from the same die. One would conclude that some of the coins presented here definitely were part of a hoard. Seventy-eight tetradrachms were struck with 39 obverse and 62 reverse dies.

Many of the dies have been reported previously, probably for expediency they were not all illustrated in the Bedoukian's CAA plates. Tigranes "boyish" portrait (Group A1) line drawing was made and illustrated by J. de Morgan.<sup>10</sup> Dies with monograms appearing on coins of Group C were illustrated by Bedoukian, but on the reverses of two different coins, CAA plates 2-3, Nos. 20 and 41.

Dies 63; 108; 112-116; 77; 120; 122, 124 (six-rayed star; \*Δ, M, H; ⊕, ⚡; new obverse portrait, A, M; A; respectively) belonging to Groups F, I, K, and M are new and not illustrated in CAA plates. New letters and monograms appearing on the coins of these groups as well as the portrait of die 77 should be considered the major contribution of this "hoard" to Armenian numismatics.

### Monogram Study and Chronology of Silver Coins

Coins of Tigranes the Great were issued in numerous mints throughout his empire. Tetradrachms issued in Damascus are dated using the Seleucid era (312 B.C. as the reference date). All numismatists agree on this point and the dates (AMΣ=72-71 B.C., BMΣ=71-70 B.C., ΓMΣ=70-69 B.C.)<sup>11</sup> correspond with the period that he ruled Damascus (72-69 B.C.). Coins issued in Artaxata, Antioch, Tigranocerta, and some other uncertain mints need numismatic research.

On the tetradrachms, in the right field, right of the palm-branch, we have the monograms A, Θ, Φ, Ϝ, ϝ, Ϟ, H; left of the Tyche, \*, Δ, M; on the rock, ⚡, †, ⊕, ⚡, +, AM, A.

According to Paul Bedoukian,<sup>12</sup> the meaning of the monograms is uncertain: "As in the case of Seleucid tetradrachms, these monograms probably denote various issues, and perhaps form part of a system of accounting." George MacDonald<sup>13</sup> states "The results of comparison have been valueless. All that can safely be said, is that some combinations appear to represent magistrates' names." Clive Foss<sup>14</sup> has a lengthy discussion, he does not offer any solution and suggests that "Historical consideration will prove of greater value." Based on the style, Foss suggests assigning particular group of tetradrachms to certain mints.<sup>15</sup>

On the drachms, above the palm-branch we have monograms Ϟ, EA, ζA; below the palm-branch, Δ, Θ, H, I, Λ; exergue, EK, EC.

Bedoukian<sup>16</sup> is of the opinion that "... it is impossible to present a satisfactory expla-

<sup>10</sup> J. de Morgan, *Manuel de Numismatique orientale de l'Antiquité et du moyen âge* (Paris, 1923-1936), p. 192, fig. 215.

<sup>11</sup> George MacDonald, "The Coinage of Tigranes I," *Numismatic Chronicle*, Series IV, Vol. II (1902), p. 200; Edward T. Newell, *Late Seleucid Mints in Ake-Ptolemais and Damascus* (New York, 1939), p. 107, Nos. 147-149; P. Z. Bedoukian, CAA, pp. 48-49, Nos. 12-14.

<sup>12</sup> P. Z. Bedoukian, CAA, p. 14.

<sup>13</sup> G. MacDonald, *op. cit.*, p. 195.

<sup>14</sup> Clive Foss, "The Coinage of Tigranes the Great," *Numismatic Chronicle*, Vol. 146 (1986), pp. 26-38.

<sup>15</sup> *ibid.*, pp. 65-66.

<sup>16</sup> P. Z. Bedoukian, CAA, p. 17.

nation of the significance of these letters." MacDonald<sup>17</sup> considers the letters above the palm branch ( $\Delta\Lambda=34$ ,  $EA=35$ ,  $\zeta\Lambda=36$ ) "a system of dating." C. Foss extends these regnal years to 38 ( $Z\Lambda=37$ ,  $H\Lambda=38$ ).<sup>18</sup> H. Seyrig,<sup>19</sup> E. Babelon,<sup>20</sup> G. MacDonald,<sup>21</sup> A. N. Zograph,<sup>22</sup> and Kh. A. Mousheghian<sup>23</sup> consider it a dating system. Babelon, based on epigraphic evidence, suggested that the Phoenician principle of dating (111 B.C. as the reference date) used in Tripolis and Sidon, was employed. MacDonald notes that Tigranes, as an heir to the possessions of Philippus Philadelphus employed the dating system discussed by Babelon. Mousheghian places the striking of all the published drachms in the years 77, 76, 75, 74, 73, and 72 B.C. (i.e.,  $\Theta\Lambda=111-39=72$  B.C.). Based on Mousheghian's reasoning, seven of the drachms in present "hoard" were issued during the years 76 and 75 B.C. Extensive numismatic research is required within the context of Greek coins issued in Seleucia and northern Mesopotamia if these questions are to be answered satisfactorily and accepted by members of numismatic fraternity.

### Conclusion and Summary

According to one reliable source, the "hoard" under discussion consists of 80 pieces of silver coins of Tigranes the Great. It was dispersed to various coin dealers and collectors before pertinent data was retrieved. Various dealers and collectors were contacted, and sale and auction catalogues were reviewed to compile the present "hoard." Admittedly, the list includes some coins which came from private collections or dealer holdings and never constituted a part of this "hoard."

The tetradrachms were sorted into thirteen groups based on the style of obverse portrait, tiara design, and reverse field letters and monograms. Seventy-eight tetradrachms were struck with 39 obverse and 62 reverse dies.

Dies not reported in Paul Z. Bedoukian's *Coinage of the Artaxiads of Armenia* include six-rayed star on the tiara (die 63), an obverse new portrait (77), and new field letters or monograms and their combinations: \* $\Delta$ , M, H (108),  $\oplus$ ,  $\Sigma$  (112-116), A, M (120), A (122, 124).

All of the tetradrachms are inscribed  $\text{ΒΑΣΙΛΕΥΣ ΤΙΓΡΑΝΟΥ}$  and depict the Tyche of Antioch on their reverses. Numismatists agree that these coins were issued in the mint of Antioch. So far there is no consensus on the meaning of these monograms.

All of the drachms in this "hoard" are different from each other. The first has the inscription  $\text{ΒΑΣΙΛΕΥΣ ΤΙΓΡΑΝΟΥ}$ , most likely struck in a Seleucid mint where tetradrachms with  $\text{ΒΑΣΙΛΕΥΣ ΤΙΓΡΑΝΟΥ}$  legend were issued. The other eight drachms are inscribed  $\text{ΒΑΣΙΛΕΥΣ ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΝ ΤΙΓΡΑΝΟΥ}$ . The consensus is that these were struck in Armenia proper, most likely in the mint of Artaxata. They are inscribed 35, 36 (EA,  $\zeta\Lambda$ ). Many numismatists consider these letters his regnal year or a dating system. E. Babelon suggests that perhaps Armenia adopted the Phoenician principle of dating where 111 B.C. was used as the reference date. By this reasoning, seven of the drachms of our "hoard" were issued in 76 and 75 B.C.

Armenian numismatics has a long distance to travel if the veil of mystery is to be removed and the meaning of field letters and monograms of Armenian coins are to be deciphered and be acceptable to all numismatists. It is hoped that in the near future nu-

<sup>17</sup> G. MacDonald, *op. cit.*, p. 197.

<sup>18</sup> *op. cit.*, p. 34.

<sup>19</sup> H. Seyrig, "Trésor Monétaires de Nisibe," *Revue Numismatique*, Series V, Vol. XVII (1955), pp. 112-116.

<sup>20</sup> E. Babelon, *Les Rois de Syrie, d'Arménie et de Commagène* (Paris, 1890), p. CLXIX.

<sup>21</sup> G. MacDonald, *op. cit.*, p. 198.

<sup>22</sup> A. N. Zograph, *Antichnye monety* (Moscow, Leningrad, 1951), p. 87 (in Russian).

<sup>23</sup> Kh. A. Mousheghian, "The Armenian Hoard of Artaxata," *Armenian Numismatic Journal*, Series I, Vol. IV (1978), pp. 105-124 (in Armenian with English summary).

mismatic research will unravel this mystery of Armenian numismatics and answer all questions which are remaining as the obscure pages of Armenian numismatics.

## ՏԻԳՐԱՆ Բ-Ի ԱՐԾԱԹՆԵՐՈՒ «ԴՐԱՄԱԳԻՒՄ» ՄԸ

[Ամփոփում]

Ըստ վստահելի աղբյուրի մը, խնդրոյ առարկայ դրամագիւտը բաղկացած է Տիգրան Մեծի 80 կտոր արծաթեայ դրամներէն Առանց ունէ դրամագիտական տեղեկութիւն չաղելու դրամագիւտը ցիր ու ցան եղած է զանազան վաճառականներուն ու դրամահաշփներուն, վաճառականներուն և դրամահաշփներուն հետ շփում հաստատուեցաւ, հազարական դրամներու վաճառքի և աճուրդի ցուցակագրութիւնները քննուեցան, Քաղելու համար անհրաժեշտ տեղեկագրութիւնը և վերակազմելու ընծայուած «դրամագիւտ»ը Ընդունելի է, թէ ներկայ ցուցակագրութիւնը կրնայ պարունակել դրամներ, որոնք դրամագիւտին մասը կազմած չլլան և պատկանած ըլլան սեփական հաւաքածոյի մը կամ ալ վաճառականի մը պահեստին:

«Դրամագիւտ»ը դասաւորուեցաւ ըստ 2. Պտուկեանի Արտաշէսեան հարստութեան դրամները երկին ուղղութեան, ուր դասաւորուած են Տիգրանի Բ-ի վերագրուած 36 տարբեր չորեքդրամեաններ, զարնուած Անտիոք և 39 դրամեաններ Արտաշատ Արիսակ 1-ի առաջին սիւնակը կուտայ դրամի իւրաքանչիւրին նշանակուած թիւը, երկրորդ սիւնակը Պտուկեանի գիրքին վկայակոչուած թիւը, երրորդ անհրաժեշտ եղած է Պտուկեանի երկու թիւերը միասեղ զործածուած են ներկայացնելու դրամին երկու կողմերուն լաւագոյն նկարագրութիւնը: Երրորդ սիւնակը կ'ընծայէ դրամներուն ետեւի արձանագրութիւնը: Չորրորդ սիւնակը դրամներու ծանրութիւնն է: Հինգերորդ և վեցերորդ սիւնակները ցոյց կու տան դաշտին մէջի նշանագրերն ու մենագիրները: Եոթերորդ սիւնակը կը ներկայացնէ դրամի խումբին լատկացուած տառերը: Ութերորդ և իններորդ սիւնակները ցոյց կու տան ակողմի ու ընկողմի կնիքներուն տրուած թիւերը (անշուշտ թիւերը ակողմին, զոյգերը ընկողմին): Վերջին սիւնակը ցոյց կու տայ, թէ դրամը որու ժողովածոյին կը պատկանի կամ ալ նախապէս որ աճուրդի ցուցակագրութեան մէջ յիշուած է:

Հիմնուած դրամի երեքսին դիմապատկերին, խորի ոճին, և ետեւի տառերուն ու մենագիրներուն վրայ՝ չորեքդրամեանները զատուեցան տասներեք խումբերու: «Դրամագիւտ»ին 78 չորեքդրամեանները զարնուած են 39 երեքի ու 62 կուսակի կնիքներով: Կնիքները որոնք չեն տոնեկագրուած Զարեհ Պտուկեանի Արտաշէսեան հարստութեան դրամները գիրքին մէջ կը պարունակեն խորի վրայի վեց-թեանի անող մը (կնիք 63), ակողմի նոր դիմապատկեր մը (77), և նոր տառեր կամ մենագիրներ ու անոնց կապակցութիւններ՝ \*Δ.Μ.Η (108), ⚙, Σ (112-116), Α.Μ (120), Α (122, 124):

Բոլոր չորեքդրամեաններու ետին արձանագրուած են յունատառ ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ ΤΙΓΡΑΝΟΥ և կը պատկերացնեն Անտիոքէի Բախտը: դրամագէտներ կը համաձայնին, թէ այս դրամները թողարկուած են Անտիոք: Ծարդ դրամագէտներ չեն կրցած համաձայնիլ այս տառերուն ու մենագիրներուն իմաստին մասին:

Ներկայ «դրամագիւտ»ին մէջի բոլոր դրամեանները իրարմէ տարբեր են: Առաջինը ունի ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ ΤΙΓΡΑΝΟΥ յունատառ արձանագրութիւնը: Հաւանաբար կոխուած ըլլայ սեկեկեան փողերանոց մը, ուր ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ ΤΙΓΡΑΝΟΥ արձանագրութեանը չորեքդրամեանները հատանուած են: Միւս ութ դրամեանները ունին ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΝ ΤΙΓΡΑΝΟΥ յունատառ արձանագրութիւնը: Դրամագէտներ կը համաձայնին, թէ դրամեանները հատանուած են Մեծ Հայք, հաւանաբար Արտաշատի փողերանոցը: Արձանագրութեանը են 35, 36 (ΕΛ, ՀՄ), Բազմաթիւ դրամագէտներ կը նկատեն այս թուանշանները իրեւ զահակալութեան տարի մը կամ ալ թուագրութիւն մը: Հ. Մէլլիք, Ե. Բաքելյոն, Գ. Մակ'իտալի, Ա. Ն. Զոգրաֆ, և Ռ. Ա. Մուշեղեան կը նկատեն թուագրութիւնը մը: Հիմնուած դրամին արձանագրութեանց ոճին ուսումնասիրման վրայ Բաքելյոն կը թելադրէ թէ Հայաստան կրնայ ընդունած ըլլալ Փիւնիկիոյ տոմարակալութիւնը, ուր 111 Ն.Ք. թուագրութիւնը ժամանակագրութեան սկիզբն է: Ուրեմն մեր «դրամագիւտ»ին եօթը դրամները հատանուած կրնան ըլլալ 76 և 75 Ն.Ք. թ.:

Հայ դրամագիտութիւնը տակաւին ունի երկար ճանապարհ կտրելիք եթէ խորհրդաւոր շղարշը պէտք է անհետանայ և հայկական դրամներուն վրայի տառերուն և մենագիրներուն իմաստը վերծանուի ու ըլլայ հասկնալի և ընդունելի բոլոր դրամագէտներուն Յուսայի է, որ յաւաքիկային, դրամագիտական հետազոտութիւնը պիտի լուծէ Հայ դրամագիտութեան զարդարելիքները և պատասխանէ բոլոր այն հարցումներուն որոնք ցարդ կը ման հայ դրամագիտութեան մուշէջները:

Ե. Թ. ՆԵՐՍԷՍՅԱՆ



Y. T. Nercessian, A «Hoard» of Silver Coins of Tigranes II



PLATE II



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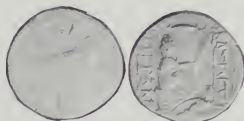
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Y. T. Nercessian, A «Hoard» of Silver Coins of Tigranes II



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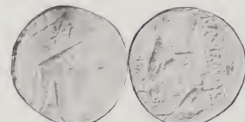
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Y. T. Nercessian, A «Hoard» of Silver Coins of Tigranes II

PLATE IV



Y. T. Nercessian, A «Hoard» of Silver Coins of Tigranes II



## FIFTY YEARS OF ARMENIAN NUMISMATICS: AN AUTOBIOGRAPHY

Mr. Yeghia Nercessian, the founder of the Armenian Numismatic Society, met me in New York back in 1984, and informed me of the Society's decision to issue a special volume dedicated to my numismatic efforts. Naturally, I was touched by this recognition, until he asked me to write an autobiographical chapter, at which point embarrassment and pain took over. He insisted, however, that this was something I had to do—his most convincing argument being that since several short biographies of me by others had been included in my *Selected Numismatic Studies* published in 1981, little more could be written that was new, and therefore, an autobiography was a "must."

As I began this task, I found that I could not write a conventional piece. Fortunately, my brother Kerop, in his book *Some of Us Survived*, has given a most interesting account of our family's life from World War I to 1926, the year we arrived in Canada, and I feel I need not repeat here what has been said by him.

Certain happenings which must be of deep significance to me kept intruding on my thoughts as I tried to reminisce, and these I put down on paper. They may be part of the circumstances which have shaped the direction of my life.

As a child, I recall my mother telling me that when I was born in Sebastia (the youngest of 8 children), my father set aside a bag of gold coins so that when I came of age I would be able to go to Germany to study agriculture. My father, who collected and marketed the crops of both Armenian and Turkish peasants and handled their finances, apparently was anxious to have me learn how to employ more modern methods of raising crops.

Mother's family included religious leaders and scholars. She often told me how impressed she had been by the story of *Uncle Tom's Cabin* (Armenian translation) which her father used to read to the members of his household.

Her younger sister had been sent to America by my father so that she could study pedagogy. Another aunt had been educated in Europe and was the first person to start an Armenian kindergarten in the Ottoman Empire. When the Turkish governor ordered her to open a similar school for the children of prominent Turkish families, she complied and soon Turkish children were singing Armenian songs and playing Armenian games.

With the coming of World War I, all such cooperative efforts abruptly ended, and the first genocide of the twentieth century began. Over a million and a half Armenians were killed and countless others driven into the Arabian deserts. When two hundred thousand Armenian volunteers joined the Russian armies and advanced into Armenia, they found it depopulated. Of course, heroic defenses also became part of Armenian history. Franz Werfel's *Forty Days of Musa Dagh* was duplicated in localities near the Russian border. In 1918, the Allies promised the people the return of their ancestral land, and Woodrow Wilson even drew the boundaries of a free Armenia, but it was not meant to be. With the advent of Communism, the Allies threw their support to Turkey and hundreds of thousands of Armenian were left homeless.

Mother and her four surviving children were stranded in Aleppo, Syria. Enterprising person that she was, she became captain of the refugee camp and was charged with the distribution of food. She hoped to be able to move us all to Cilicia, a French protectorate, but after its evacuation by the French (another betrayal by the Allies), my aunt in America helped us leave for Constantinople. Later she sent money for my two sisters to emigrate to America, but funds were not available for rest of us. With the rise to power of Kemal Ataturk and a resurgence of Turkish nationalism, we were again forced to move, this time to Bulgaria. Here in a Christian country, the atmosphere was entirely different. Bulgarians were sympathetic to Armenians since for centuries they had suffered a similar fate at the hands of the Turks. Mother managed to enroll me in Mesrobian College, a private elementary school established by Kevork Mesrob, a teacher and historian of note. I still remember this vibrant short man, a patriot imbued with the idealism of an Armenian intellectual, and his watch chain to which was attached a silver coin with an Armenian legend. (I know now that it was a tram of Hetoum-Zabel). It was said that he could sit down and write an entire history of Armenia from memory. His teaching staff consisted of an Armenian officer who had fought as a volunteer in the French army occupying Cilicia. Another instructor was an Armenian with a poetic soul who spent half of his time reciting poetry and instilling in his students a love of our language and cultural past. Our mathematics and science teachers, graduates of Robert College in Constantinople, tried in vain to make us understand that the age of science was approaching and that neither poetry nor history could earn us a living.

It was 1925, and I was still mesmerized by the Hetoum-Zabel coin. I went to grocery stores and asked if any old coins were available for purchase. Surprisingly, many storekeepers had old Byzantine or Roman coins in their cash boxes and were willing to sell them to me for a pittance. At the age of 13, I also recall visiting the Bulgarian National Museum and being entranced by their silver tetradrachms of Tigranes.

The following year, I was in the first graduating class of Mesrobian College. Two weeks after school was over, we emigrated to Canada, thanks to the efforts of my aunt and her husband, Dr. M. Mihan. Several months later, I received a congratulatory letter from Kevork Mesrob, with my diploma which I have kept to this day.

Life in Canada was not easy for newcomers like us. I was placed with a woman chiropractor, away from my family, so that I could learn English as quickly as possible. She was a wonderful and religious woman, who insisted that I go to church three times on Sundays. And being a vegetarian herself, she served me meat only once a week. This was sheer torture for a growing boy of fourteen. In desperation, I wrote my brother, who had been sent to live with a farmer, urging him to find a job for me at the farm, or else! Kerop presented my case to his employer, Mr. Hindley, a kindly Canadian farmer, who consented to let me come, help with the chores, and attend the local school.

Thus in January, 1927 I went to Ospringe. The schoolhouse was a classic one-room building. I was put in a lower grade than my age warranted because of my poor grasp of the English language (four years lower). In other words, I would be graduating from elementary school at the age of 17. Realizing the implications this would have, I went to the blackboard one day and wrote in large letters, *TIME IS MONEY*. When our teacher, Miss Smith (I still remember her name) asked who was responsible, I got up and explained in front of the class that it was imperative that I graduate that year, otherwise, there would be no future for me. She shook her head and tried to make me understand the futility of writing exam papers without adequate knowledge of the language. I replied that I really wanted to try to take the high school entrance exams in six months and she reluctantly consented. When the time came to take the exams, I had been in Canada for just ten months, but to everyone's delighted surprise, I managed to pass.

## High School Years

The family moved to Toronto where I went to high school. In my final year, the school counselor asked what my career choice was. I replied that I wanted to become an antiquarian, a natural choice since I found history and geography the most interesting subjects in the curriculum. He suggested that I go into the sciences instead as my marks in math and science averaged over 95%. I could take courses in chemistry, possibly leading to a teaching career, or in chemical engineering which seemed to have a better and more secure future. His feeling was that as an antique dealer, I could not expect much of a livelihood. It was the height of the depression and I heeded his advice. One final note à propos of this. I had to write 15 exams (I insisted on taking the history exam, too, although it was not required for engineering), but there was a charge of one dollar for each. Although I had found a summer job on a farm which would pay a dollar a day, there was no way I could afford to give up two weeks salary. Hoping the principal would come up with a suggestion, I went to him and explained my predicament. He looked at my records, and made out a check for \$15! It was one of the most thrilling moments in my life.

I have never forgotten the five summers of farm work that followed. Bring the cows in at 5 A.M., feed them, milk them, clean the stables, all before breakfast. And afterward, work in the fields all day, repeating the milking session in the evening. All I can say is that I became a very muscular young man. Upon entering the University of Toronto, I joined the wrestling team and spent five evenings a week training. It was a great life while it lasted. The depression hit hard and work became almost impossible to find. My mother who had been keeping boarders now had to give up her means of livelihood because the boarders were out of jobs and could no longer afford to pay six dollars a week for a room and board.

## University Years

Our next move was to Montreal where my brother had started a rug cleaning business. I was accepted at McGill University and continued my studies there. Summers were spent canvassing business for Kerop. It involved ringing doorbells in the wealthy sections of the city and asking if there were any rugs needs cleaning. People were very nice and amazingly I brought in fifty dollars worth of business a week, a tidy sum when compared with the six dollars weekly salary earned by our very capable secretary. For once, I had a few dollars in my pocket (my commission), and I knew exactly where the money could be spent.

I was able to contact Mr. Hagop Kelekian, an antique dealer in Istanbul and began buying some Armenian coins from him. By really economizing, I saved enough to pay him fifty cents to three dollars each for the coins. Sensing my interest, he sent me a copy of Sibilian's book about the coinage of Cilician Armenia. Perusal of this volume created an enthusiasm in me which has lasted to this day.

In 1936, I graduated from McGill with a degree in Chemical Engineering. Out of 34 freshman who started the program, 17 made it to graduation, and 3 got positions in chemical companies. The depression was still upon us, even though war clouds were beginning to gather. A British firm, W. J. Bush & Co., dealing in essential oils and flavors, hired me because I was instrumental in acquainting them with certain developments in the manufacture of vanillin in Canada, information which enabled them to acquire a world exclusivity in this important commodity. The job paid twenty dollars a week; in addition, Bush built a lab for me to carry out experimental work in flavors and fragrances.

### Postgraduate Years

My dual life as a chemist and numismatist really began at this point. I began to look in earnest for more sources for the purchase of Armenian coins. In a letter dated October 5, 1936, J. Schulman of Amsterdam sent me a page of their price list on Armenian coins. I bought quite a few pieces. My next letter inquired about the availability of Langlois' book. The response was negative. A letter from Spink & Son dated October 5, 1936 informed me that a drachm of Tigranes in fair condition was available at two pounds.

After two years at W. J. Bush & Co., I realized that I needed a much greater knowledge of Organic Chemistry if I was to make any progress in my field. Bush allowed me to attend graduate school on a part-time basis if that was acceptable to the university. Unfortunately, it was not. It was suggested that I discuss my situation with the head of the department. The professor was adamant, however, and declared that it was a long-standing policy at McGill that graduate students be enrolled full time. Crestfallen, I told the discouraging news to my friends in the graduate organic lab. All seven of them marched to the office of the dean of the graduate school, Dr. Maass, to voice their protest. Dr. Maass sent for me, and after a long conversation, decided that he would make an exception in my case. I shall be forever grateful. I continued to work for Bush, was engaged in war projects at graduate school, and eventually received a doctorate in Organic Chemistry (1941).

During my undergraduate and postgraduate years I made frequent trips to New York to visit my sisters and my aunt and uncle. In course of one such visit, shortly after Pearl Harbor, I met a lovely young lady, the former Vicki Hagopian, at an AGBU function. We married a year later, in December 1942. I found it interesting that she didn't mention until after our wedding that she had a Phi Beta Kappa key. Our marriage was blessed with three children, Robert, Betty and Joan.

Some of my research projects at W. J. Bush were of interest to chemical science and I decided to submit one of them for publication in the journal of the American Chemical Society. To my surprise, the paper was accepted, marking the beginning of Vicki's long involvement with the editing and typing of my many publications in chemistry and numismatics. The clarity of her thinking as reflected in the material she edited still amazes me.

### Early Years in the U. S.

In 1945 we left Canada to reside in the United States. I was offered several jobs in the vicinity of New York, and eventually chose one with a small company which would allow me to do outside consulting in my field. It proved to be the right choice for me because it gave me time for my own scientific research and for my numismatic activities.

Since the latter is such an important part of my life, I have come to the conclusion that for this autobiography a review of my correspondence with other numismatists and coin dealers spanning half a century may serve the cause of Armenian numismatics. On going over my bulging files containing several thousand pieces of correspondence, I have also become aware of the role played by a dozen or so people in guiding the course of my studies.

Not long after the end of World War II, I received a copy of Basmadjian's book on Armenian coinage written in 1936. It became my Bible. Armed with the information I had learned from the book, I began corresponding with a number of dealers in Europe in the hope that they could provide me with certain types of coins. Most responded that they

could offer Roman coins bearing the inscription ARMENIA or ARMENIACVS. I purchased whatever they had at \$1 to \$3 a coin.

### 1950s

I made the acquaintance of Dr. Jacob Hirsch, a renowned scholar and numismatist with galleries and residence on West 54th Street in Manhattan. He sold me some ARMENIACVS sestertii at \$10 to \$25 each. On one of my visits, he brought out a box full of Roman gold coins, several hundred pieces, all in FDC condition, saying that he had two offers of \$50,000 for the contents of the box, one from a lord in England and another from a count in Italy. It was a dazzling collection. I was most interested in three ARMENIACVS gold pieces, each marked \$250, but on my salary of \$300 a month, this was out of the question. Dr. Hirsch asked me how much I could offer. I suggested \$250 for the three. I shall never forget how he picked them out, handed them to me, and told me that I could pay for them at my convenience! Then he advised me to buy an extremely fine tetradrachm of Tigranes which he felt was the best in existence. I bought it for \$110. Some twenty years later, I gave it to my son-in-law, Torkom Demirjian, when he decided to go into the coin and antique business.

In 1950, I visited the museum of the American Numismatic Society in New York and requested to see any Armenian coins they might have. Mr. William Clark, the Curator of Medieval and Modern Coins showed me a tray containing a copper coin of Kiurke. I noted that the literature reported the existence of only one other Kiurke piece and that it might be worth studying. Mr. Clark suggested that I submit a short paper on the subject. On February 23, 1951, I sent the Society an article entitled "A Rare Armenian Coin." On March 17, Mr. Sawyer M. Mosser, the editor of *Museum Notes*, informed me that the article had been accepted for publication. Joyous news.

In a letter dated October 27, 1955, Mr. Louis C. West, the president of the American Numismatic Society, suggested that I apply for membership in the Society, which I promptly did, and a month later Mr. Mosser informed me that the Council of the ANS had unanimously elected me an Associate Member of the Society. Mr. West and Mr. Mosser had launched me on a serious numismatic career.

In 1952, I purchased a number of coins from Spink & Son in London and from other sources. The pieces from the Ryan sale, including many rarities of Roman coins relating to Armenia, were of particular interest. Looking over the prices paid then for the coins, one is amazed at the tremendous increase in their value thirty years later.

I began studying the coinage of Cilician Armenia with a view to preparing a treatise on the subject. It was going to be a most difficult project. The literature was outdated and limited in scope. I was fully aware of the fact that I would have to acquire a large number of coins for study and would have to become familiar with existing collections in the museums in Europe. But I set about the task with much enthusiasm.

Mr. Djanjigian, a student from Beirut, informed me that a coin dealer in Beirut, Mr. A. Poladian, had Armenian coins for sale. A letter to Mr. Poladian began a correspondence which lasted for over twenty years. During this period, he sent me literally thousands of Armenian coins as well as many Crusader hoards. A patriotic Armenian, he was one of the first to donate valuable pieces to the numismatic department of the Historical Museum in Armenia.

In 1953 when I went to Europe to establish a branch of the then highly successful American perfume company, Fabergé, I had the pleasure of meeting Mr. Berj Garabetian, a noted numismatist who had been sent to France by Catholicos Karekin I of Cilicia to attend courses in classical studies. While in Paris, he classified the coins



of the Bibliothèque Nationale, describing each coin in detail on a large format sheet.

On returning from Europe, I began extensive correspondence with various institutions in the hope that I would visit them at a later date to make an inventory of their holdings. A question arose. How was I to make a reliable record of their coins? The choices were to make casts, a time-consuming effort, not very practicable when large numbers are involved, or to make paper impressions which suffered from the disadvantage of a lack of clarity. A method had to be found whereby thousands of coins could be recorded in a relatively short time.

Gradually the idea grew that if instead of making paper impressions (rubbed over lightly with pencil to bring out details), one could use metal foil. After some experimentation, I found that pressing a coin with aluminum foil gave an exact image of the coin which could be preserved indefinitely in the absence of external pressure. A practical application of this system involved the use of a corporation seal. The upper jaw of the seal was permanently fitted with a hard rubber sheet. A rectangle of aluminum foil was folded to hold the coin placed on a second rubber sheet and pressed in the jaw of the seal which now had a permanent rubber facing and a movable lower base. From 60 to 100 impressions could be made per hour in this manner. Every detail of the coin was clear, and the folded sheet gave the die axis relation of the obverse and reverse. The aluminum foil was too shiny and did not photograph well, but it could be used for purposes of study better than the coin itself. If photographs were required, casts could be made from them and then photographed. Once this discovery was made, I sent corporation seals to Lebanon, Turkey, the Soviet Union, and other countries, and eventually obtained impressions of their collections of Armenian coins. Incidentally, this procedure is now used by numismatists throughout the world to acquire material for research.

On July 16, 1958, I left for Europe to record the coins in various museums. On the strength of letters written by Dr. George C. Miles, chief curator of the American Numismatic Society, to Mr. Georges Le Rider and Mr. Jean Babelon of Bibliothèque Nationale, to Professor E. Holzmair of Kunsthistorische Museum in Vienna, and to Dr. John Walker of the British Museum, I was admitted to all these institutions.

The Mekhitarist Museum in Vienna was perhaps the richest repository of Armenian coins. Here I was introduced by a good friend, Mr. Artin Aslanian of New York who had made substantial financial gifts to the Mekhitarists.

Thanks to the good offices of a leading Armenian businessman, Mr. V. Fringhian, I was able to see and record the private collection owned by Mrs. Baghaddalian in Paris. Her father had been a diplomat in the French foreign service before the turn of the century and had formed the collection. Ten years later, in 1968, she offered the collection to me for a nominal sum. I happily purchased it.

This was a most productive numismatic journey. I returned home with over 5,000 impressions of Armenian coins. Additional impressions were sent from the museum in Armenia, from the Hermitage Museum in Leningrad thanks to the friendly cooperation of Dr. Bykov and Dobrovolsky, and from the Djemaran in Beirut through the efforts of Mr. Djanjigian.

The next step preparatory to writing a book on Cilician coins was to bring together all the published material relating to Roupenian coins. The earliest printed book on Armenian coins was M. Brosset, printed in St. Petersburg in 1839. A copy was nowhere to be found, but the National (Miasnikian) Library in Erevan—much to my surprise—sent me their only copy so that I could pursue my studies. The earliest report on a Roupenian coin (not including the bilingual coins) appeared in St. Petersburg in 1745. Thanks to a search undertaken by Prof. A. A. Bykov, it was found and its contents transmitted to me. Sir Steven Runciman, the author of the three-volume treatise on *The*

*Crusaders*, wrote me several letters to clarify some points I had raised on historical events relating to the coinage of certain kings.

From 1950 to 1960, literally thousands of coins were added to my collection, mostly from Lebanon. The acquisition of over fifty Gosdantin III/IV coins enabled me to find a method of distinguishing the coins of Gosdantin III from those of Gosdantin IV by specific gravity determinations. Two hoards of Hetoum-Zabel trams also became available. By chance, the two hoards proved complimentary, making it possible to arrange the coinage of these rulers in chronological order.

The question of the identity of the Armenian Byzancios Stauratos was finally resolved. They were shown to be trams of Cilician Armenia, having a prominent cross on the reverse.

Some uncertainty had been expressed regarding the authenticity of Armenian gold pieces. The paucity of specimens cast a doubt as to their genuineness. But the problem was solved by finding silver coins struck with the identical dies of the gold coins, proving that that the gold pieces were indeed genuine and contemporary. They had probably been struck for presentation as gifts on special occasions.

As a result of my visit to the Vienna Mekhitarists, I became acquainted with His Grace Archbishop Mesrob Habozian, a most capable and gentle person with piercing eyes. In gratitude for his allowing me to make impressions of their entire collection of three thousand coins, I promised to write articles for his journal. I kept the promise. Later, he saw to it that my numismatic books were translated into Armenian and published by his press. It was what Father Sibilian would have wanted. Incidentally, their coin collection is now in excess of 10,000 pieces.

A problem that still needs clarification, in spite of my correspondence with Prof. Philip Grierson, the noted British scholar, is the identity of the Bissancios Saracenati d'Arménie.

Early in 1958, I received a letter from Professor Asbed Donabedian of Beirut informing me of his interest in studying coins. Our correspondence grew as time went on. He was in a position to obtain coins first hand and was instrumental in providing me with aluminum foil impressions of several collections. He authored several very interesting articles which were published in Armenian journals in Beirut.

### **Publication of the *Coinage of Cilician Armenia***

I had begun working on this book in the early 1950s and in 1958, a draft was finally completed and sent to Professor Sirarpie der Nersessian. She read it carefully and made a number of valuable suggestions and corrections. Another copy was given to Dr. George C. Miles of the American Numismatic Society. His comments were also most helpful.

In 1959, the corpus was submitted to the American Numismatic Society. Within a few months I received a letter from Mr. Sawyer Mosser informing me that it had been approved for publication. This most welcome news represented the fruition of my efforts for almost a decade, involving over 8,000 hours of dedicated work. My wife, who has always been my best critic, had worked with me throughout the whole period. We had the satisfaction of having achieved our purpose.

The volume was published by the American Numismatic Society in 1962 as their *Numismatic Notes and Monographs*, No. 147. It was a voluminous book, having 31 introductory pages, 494 pages of text (including the corpus) and 48 plates. It achieved wide acclaim and received favorable reviews in the numismatic world. After its publication,

I received many letters from scholars and collectors and widened my acquaintance with other numismatists. Among Armenian numismatists, Dr. M. Abgarians, then of Iran, and Mr. B. Sabbagh of Syria, deserve special mention.

### 1960s

I was informed by the Société Française de Numismatique that at a meeting on Nov. 9, 1963, I had been elected a "membre correspondant" of the Society. In the same month, on Nov. 20, 1963, the Royal Numismatic Society in England notified me that they had elected me a Fellow of the Society.

As a result of the publication of the *Coinage of Cilician Armenia*, dealers were encouraged to sort out their Armenian coins and before long my collection increased by over 20,000 pieces. Eventually, I donated collections to various institutions. By supplying me with these coins, the dealers actually saved them from destruction. It is no secret that the Turks were constantly melting Armenian silver pieces and using the silver for jewelry. It is noteworthy that because of the attention Armenian coins were now enjoying, four of my correspondants, namely, Mr. Armenak Poladian, Mr. Miadsin Havandjian, Prof. Asbed Donabedian and Prof. E. E. Ebeyan, succeeded in two decades to raise the number of Armenian coins extant from ten thousand to fifty thousand. Most of the specimens were found in Turkey and northern Syria.

My new goals were to try to find answers to still unsolved problems relating to Cilician Armenian coins, to collect material for a serious study of Artaxiad coins, and to take a good look at Crusader coins, a subject which had not been really studied for a hundred years.

Mr. Poladian offered to sell me over 20 Crusader hoards at a reasonable price. I accepted the offer. These hoards consisted of mixed coins, both silver and copper, some in poor condition. Up to this time, the hoards reported in the literature consisted of presentable billons, attractive to dealers and collectors. Although the parcels which Mr. Poladian sent me were not readily saleable because of their appearance, I felt that they had truer numismatic value than hoards of several hundred helmet billons. It is interesting that once I received these shipments, the supply was exhausted and no more has become available. I saved these hoards for future study.

Mr. Havandjian sent me copper coins struck by Roupenian princes and I was able to publish an article putting forth the available material and information. He also sent me a Crusader type of billon struck by Levon I found among 845 billons of Bohemund IV of Antioch. This was a unique discovery worthy of publication.

Having recorded all the specimens of Artaxiad coins in the major museums in Europe, and being fortified by the purchase of a large number of coppers, I finally completed an extensive study which was published by the American Numismatic Society in 1968 under the title of "A Classification of the Coins of the Artaxiad Dynasty of Armenia." It was a major effort and set the stage for my ambitious plan of preparing a corpus on the coinage of this period.

### 1970s-1980s

Continued demand for information on Cilician coins prompted the publication of my treatise on *Medieval Armenian Coins*, first appearing in *Revue des Études Arméniennes*, and later in book form. In this work, I presented clear line drawings of the coins, and English transliteration in a circle around the drawing, and a translation in the outer circle. Excellent line drawings were obtained by taking photographs of the



coins, going over the legends, figures or designs with black India ink, then bleaching out the photographs. This was done on a 3X enlargement, so that when the final bleached work was reduced to normal size, it became a very good representation of the coin itself. It made the study of Roupenian coins more interesting to the non-Armenian collector or scholar. The same technique was used in my book on *Roman Coins and Medallions Relating to Armenia*, written in Armenian and published by the Mekhitarists in Vienna in 1971. It listed over 600 Roman coins having legends or marks relating to Armenia.

To digress from numismatic activities a bit, it can be mentioned that I left Fabergé in 1954, but continued my consulting efforts in the flavor and fragrance industry. In 1951, D. Van Nostrand Company had published my book on *Perfumery Synthetics and Isolates*. In 1967, a second revised edition was published by Elsevier Publishing Company under the title of *Perfumery and Flavoring Synthetics* and was selected as one of the 100 best scientific/technical books among 4,000 published. The third revised edition was published by Allured Publications in 1986.

In the course of my research projects, I discovered a new method of preparing a compound called "leaf alcohol," a substance that gives a fresh green odor to fruits and vegetables. A major American firm adopted leaf alcohol for use in a food flavor, and before long, I was catapulted into the manufacture of small-scale expensive chemicals for the fragrance and flavor industries. A manufacturing company, Bedoukian Research, Inc., was incorporated in 1972 and now employs five doctoral chemists and ten graduate chemists. My son Robert who had studied chemical engineering at Tufts and received his doctorate in Organic Chemistry from Purdue University, joined the firm in 1975 and now heads its operations.

The challenges encountered in organic chemistry are almost as exciting as those in numismatics, but lack the romance of history.

My work on numismatics never ceased. By the mid-1970s, I had accumulated records of close to a thousand Artaxiad coins. Many of them were tetradrachms of Tigranes II, struck in Antioch, but a sufficient number of other types warranted an attempt to prepare a corpus. The Royal Numismatic Society was willing to consider publication of the book, and Dr. Michael Metcalf, the editor of the Society, undertook the arduous task of reading the manuscript and making the necessary changes.

Professor Otto Morkholm of the Copenhagen National Museum read the final draft. Both Miss Margaret Thompson and Mrs. Nancy Waggoner of the American Numismatic Society were most helpful during the preparation of this work. The *Coinage of the Artaxiads of Armenia* appeared in 1978 as *Special Publication*, No. 10 of the Royal Numismatic Society. It contained 10 introductory pages, 80 pages of text and corpus and 8 plates. The Mekhitarists of Vienna obtained 500 copies of the corpus and plates which they incorporated with the Armenian text in 1982. As frequently happens, new material turned up shortly after publication, and was summarized in the 1983 edition of *Revue des Études Arméniennes* and other journals.

In 1972, I received a letter from Y. T. Nercessian of Los Angeles announcing the formation of the Armenian Numismatic Society. As a result of his untiring efforts, the club has grown and attracted the attention of numismatists world wide. The Society also issues the *Armenian Numismatic Journal* on a regular basis. The publication of the Sibilian memorial volume in 1980, edited by Mr. Nercessian and Dr. D. Kouymjian, was a milestone in the Society's activities. Recognizing the need for a comprehensive bibliographical reference volume dealing with Armenian numismatics, the Armenian Numismatic Society published Nercessian's *Armenian Numismatic Bibliography and Literature* in 1984. This bilingual printing of 729 pages, including 1349 references, will long remain a handy references for all those interested in the coinage of Armenia and

related subjects. Mr. Nercessian is an indefatigable worker and his correspondence with me is voluminous.

Many suggestions for a second revised edition of my out-of-print book on the *Coinage of Cilician Armenia* were being sent to me. Publishing a new edition by the American Numismatic Society or any other organization was now beyond anyone's means. But on investigation, I discovered to my surprise that photocopying was a very reasonable way of getting around the financial problem. I brought the text up to date by inserting new information obtained since 1962 and photocopied the entire book. The original plates which had been photographed from aluminum foil impressions were not very satisfactory and I decided to replace them with photographs of plaster casts. A fine edition, with hard cover and gold lettering, was thus published in 1979 at a fraction of the cost of the original volume.

The Armenian Numismatic Society felt that my articles, both English and Armenian, scattered in many journals which were not readily available, should be collected in a single volume. Again thanks to the low cost of photocopying, my 47 numismatic articles appearing from 1952 to 1980 were combined in one book under the title of *Selected Numismatic Studies*. It was *Special Publication*, No. 1 of the Armenian Numismatic Society, dated 1981.

Numismatists had long recognized that certain coins struck in the second and third century before Christ belonged to Armenian kings, but because the number of coins known to exist was very small, the specimens could not be incorporated into the fabric of an Armenian study. Babelon devoted several pages in his classic *Les Rois de Syrie, d'Arménie et de Commagène* to this question and attributed the coins of Sames, Arsames, Xerxes and Abdissares to Armenian kings. Earlier, in 1859, Langlois had mentioned that some of these coins belonged to Armenia. In 1963, Mr. Cyril Toumanoff published his scholarly work, *Studies in Christian Caucasian History*, and presented a chronology of the rulers of the Orontid dynasty in Armenia from 401 B.C. to 95 B.C.

This chronology perplexed me for years and prevented me from studying the coinage of the early rulers of Armenia. According to Toumanoff, five rulers bore the name Orontes, but other rulers were part of this dynasty, including Sames, Arsames, and Xerxes. What couldn't be explained was the fact that not a single coin struck in Armenia attributable to an Orontes was in existence. It finally occurred to me that perhaps the Orontes Kings did not belong to the same ruling dynasty which had struck coins. Once this idea took hold, consulting historical sources as well as the recently published *Armenian Encyclopedia* confirmed my thinking that the Orontids ruling in Greater Armenia under the influence of the Achaemenid kings never struck coins. The kings ruling in southwestern Armenia under the Seleucids did issue coins, as did other small kingdoms in Asia Minor.

Soon the hidden facts came to light; the rest was simple. I had already compiled a record of this period from various museums and had personally collected many specimens. Enough pieces were now available to make a study, and an important article on the subject was published in the *Museum Notes* of the American Numismatic Society in 1981 entitled *Coinage of the Armenian Kingdoms of Sophene and Commagene*. The following year, the Armenian Numismatic Society in its *Special Publication*, No. 4 published the article in booklet form along with its Armenian version.

This autobiography has dealt primarily with my numismatic endeavors over the past fifty years. Hopefully, it will encourage others to continue research on the many problems that remain to be solved, and will give them the intense satisfaction that I have derived from collecting and studying the coinage of Armenia.

PAUL Z. BEDOUKIAN, Ph. D.



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June 1994

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ARMENIAN

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JOURNAL

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## ARMENIAN NUMISMATIC JOURNAL

Series I

Vol. XX, No. 2

June 1994

### LATEST NEWS

#### ARMENIAN NUMISMATIC BIBLIOGRAPHY AND LITERATURE VOL. II

In our book, *Armenian Numismatic Bibliography and Literature*, Vol. II (in preparation), we have opened three new chapters in order to accommodate recent changes.

1. New literature composed to describe USSR commemorative coins on Armenian subjects. This chapter is named "Issues of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics Relating to Armenia."
2. As we all know, the USSR was dissolved and the states constituting the former USSR are now independent and sovereign republics. To be ready for currencies of the third republic, the new chapter is called "The Republic of Armenia (1991)."
3. When suddenly we faced the departure of several famous Armenian numismatists we realized that a chapter on "Numismatists" was missing. It is better late than never. Therefore, we have opened a chapter where applicable entries are made for well known numismatists.

During the past few months we have reviewed all information known to us in numismatic literature and *Armenian Encyclopedia*, on past and present Armenian numismatists, and recorded the following persons: ABGARIANS, Mesrop T. (12.X.1908-†13.XI.1992); ALISHAN, Fr. Ghewond M. (1820-†1901); ATRPET (1860-†1937); BASMADJIAN, K. J. (1864-†17.V.1942); BEDOUKIAN, Paul Z. (11.VI.1912); DASHIAN, Fr. Hakovbos (25.10.1866-†3.2.1933); DONABEDIAN, Asbed H. M. (6.I.1923-†23.I.1993); EBEYAN, A. A. (1913); GARABETIAN, Berj M. (1908-†5-VII-1987); JAMGOCHIAN, Nicholas V. (1912-†1993); LANGLOIS, Victor (25.10.1866-†3.2.1933); MOUSHEGHIAN, KH. A. (20.IX.1919-†5.XI.1992); NERCESSIAN, Y. T. ; SABBAGHIAN, Berj. (1918-†12.VII.1982); SARKISSIAN, Henry V.; SARYAN, Levon A.; SEKOULIAN, Fr. Augustinus (19.9.1921); SIBILIAN, Fr. Clement (17.II.1824-†23.V.1878); VASMER, Richard R. (1888-†1938). Members possessing such information (on other numismatists as well) unknown to us are invited to submit them to the Society. If only bibliographic information is submitted instead of a photocopy, please indicate it if "with portrait." Their names shall be included in the "acknowledgment" section of *ANBL* Vol. II for sending numismatic literature.

We had originally planned to publish *ANBL*, Vol. II covering the years 1981-1990. This did not materialize. Hopefully, volume two covering the years 1981 to 2000 will be published. Such a volume may be 300-400 pages. This will be similar to our 1984 edition, which describes all Armenian numismatic literature (with bilingual abstracts) from the beginning to 1980.

Y. T. Nercessian

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It is with deep sorrow that we report the death of Mr. Edward Joseph who passed away in Glendale, California (3.IX.1903-†9.I.1994). Mr. Joseph was a good friend and Member of the Armenian Numismatic Society.

## LETTERS

I read with great pleasure Dr. Saryan's article on overstruck bronzes of Tigranes the Great in the recent *Celator*. About two years ago I started working on overstrikes, chiefly Greek silver. Of course, I quickly became aware of the Armenian copper overstrikes and started acquiring them whenever I happened across them. I now have six: five Tigranes II and one Artavasdes. ...

I do not have photographs at hand. I could prepare them, but frankly I would be just as glad to send the coins themselves to you for examination. ...

...For years I have been meaning to join your Society, but somehow I have never gotten around to it. Would you please send me membership information?

David MacDonald  
Illinois State University  
Normal, IL

I just returned from the International Symposium on the Armenian Kingdom of Cilicia. It was sponsored by the Prelacy of the Armenian Apostolic Church in New York City November 12-14, and included lectures by several prominent scholars, a play, a concert of medieval music, a special requiem mass for the kings, catholicoses, writers, and artists who lived and worked between 1080 and 1375, and finally a medieval Armenian banquet. The entire symposium was held under the auspices of His Holiness Karekin II, Catholicos of the Great House of Cilicia (who spoke eloquently several times on the significance of the Cilician era in Armenian history), and flawlessly organized by His Eminence Archbishop Mesrob Ashjian and the staff of the Armenian Prelacy. A beautiful commemorative booklet was published (publication of the full proceedings is planned), and a large commemorative medal in bronze was struck.

The sessions, held at the Alliance Francaise on East 59 Street near Central Park, were attended by overflow crowds. Excellent symposium papers were presented by scholars from around the globe in the fields of history, linguistics, literature, theology, music, and art, some of whom work on the fringes of Armenian numismatics. I had the distinct pleasure of meeting many scholars from Armenia and elsewhere for the first time (including Levon Chookaszian, Azat Bozoyan, Alice Taylor, Sylvie Merlian, Gerard Dedeyan, Denis Sinor, Count Rudt de Collenberg, Vartan Matiossian, Peter Cowe, and Edmond Schutz), and renewing my acquaintance with several others (Kevork Der Vartanian, Levon Zekiyan, Lucy Der Manuelian, and others). Unfortunately, Dr. Bedoukian was unable to attend, and in his stead I was asked to present a paper on the coinage of Cilician Armenia, which was very well received.

Levon A. Saryan  
Greenfield, WI

**A note on attribution:** The late Dr. Mesrop Abgarians published an article entitled "Four Rare Artaxiad Copper Coins," *ANJ*, Ser I., Vol. XVI (1990), No. 3, pp. 23-27. Here coin No. 2 was presented as a "copper coin of Tigranes II?" (Obv.: Apollo, Rev.: Heracles). This coin was considered overstruck on a Seleucid coin.

While doing research and cataloging overstruck Artaxiad coins, I came across additional information which should be published here.

In Vol. II of D. R. Sear's *Greek Coins and Their Values* (London 1979), p. 683, No. 7268, a copper of Prusias II of the Bithynian Kingdom is described, Obv.: Prusias, Rev.: ΒΑΣΙΛΕΥΣ/ΠΡΟΥΣΙΟΥ either side of naked Heracles stg. l., holding club and lion's skin. This coin of Prusias is extremely similar to the copper of Tigranes described by Abgarians. In fact the legend on Abgarians coin reads ΒΑΣΙΛΕΥΣ/ΠΡΟΥΣΙΟΥ[Y]. Apparently, the person who sold this chalcos did not know any better and Abgarians purchased a coin worth about 40% of the value of Tigranes II Heracles.

Y. T. Nercessian

## A SILVER COIN HOARD OF LEVON III AND OSHIN

Plate V

Levon A. SARYAN

The coinage of fourteenth century Cilician Armenia offers several challenges for the numismatic researcher. Thanks to the efforts of Dr. Paul Z. Bedoukian and others, the coins of the various kings have been attributed satisfactorily, but we are still poorly informed about the sequence of issue under individual kings. Medieval hoards could be used to shed light on this topic, but most recorded hoards pertain to earlier kings Levon I (1198-1219) and Hetoum I (1226-1270).<sup>1</sup> Few hoards of the later kings are known and fewer still have been published. Thus medieval Armenian coinage remains a fertile area for original investigation.

Mixed hoards of the later kings are plausible based on historic and numismatic considerations,<sup>2</sup> and can offer clues to the chronological arrangement of coin issues. No hoards combining Levon III (1301-1307) and Oshin (1308-1320) have been documented heretofore. Prior to 1992 no hoards of Levon III had been published, and gaps still remain in our understanding of the coinage of this king.<sup>3</sup> Only one study of the rare and attractive coronation trams of Oshin has been published.<sup>4</sup> No hoards of Oshin takvorins have yet been described.<sup>5</sup> The importance of this mixed hoard consisting mostly of takvorins of Levon III and Oshin is thus readily apparent.

### Historical background

During the late thirteenth and fourteenth centuries, Cilician Armenia was under nearly constant enemy attack. By 1300, the Crusader principalities of the eastern Mediterranean had crumbled under relentless Egyptian Mamluk onslaught, and only Armenia was left on the mainland to uphold the Christian standard. After a decade of instability and fratricidal strife in the royal palace, Prince Levon (the younger son of Thoros) assumed the throne of Armenia in 1301 with the assistance of his uncle Hetoum II (who had ruled intermittently as king in the late 1200s) as coadjutor.<sup>6</sup> Levon III returned the country to some semblance of economic and political normalcy; it is apparent, at least, that he reorganized the mint to produce silver coinage in quantity after a decade of turmoil under Hetoum II, Thoros, Smpad, and Gosdantin I.

<sup>1</sup> P. Z. Bedoukian, *Armenian Coin Hoards* (Los Angeles, 1987), lists 41 such discoveries up to 1987. See also P. Woodhead, "Two Small Armenian Hoard Groups," *Numismatic Circular*, Vol. XCV (May 1987), No. 4, pp. 107-109, and L. A. Saryan, "An Armenian Medieval Bronze Group," *Journal of the Pacific Coast Numismatic Society*, No. 23 (April 1990), pp. 4-7.

<sup>2</sup> P. Z. Bedoukian, *Coinage of Cilician Armenia* (New York, 1962), p. 97, discusses a hoard reported in the late 1800s by Father Sibilian; also see P. Z. Bedoukian, "An Important Hoard of Gosdantin III, Levon the Usurper, and Gosdantin IV of Cilician Armenia," in *Haigazian Armenological Review*, Vol. III (1972), pp. 151-183 (in Armenian).

<sup>3</sup> Y. T. Nercessian, "A Hoard of Levon III Takvorins," *Armenian Numismatic Journal*, Vol. XVIII (1992), pp. 3-14; L. A. Saryan and C. A. Hajinian, "Another Hoard of Levon III Takvorins," *Armenian Numismatic Journal*, Vol. XVIII (1992), pp. 15-24; L. A. Saryan, "More Takvorins of Levon III," *Armenian Numismatic Journal*, Vol. XVIII (1992), pp. 77-78.

<sup>4</sup> P. Z. Bedoukian, "A Hoard of Silver Coronation Trams of Oshin (1308-1320)," *Haigazian Armenological Review*, Vol. IV (1973), pp. 81-96 (in Armenian). J. Guevrekian, "King Oshin Half Tram," *Armenian Numismatic Journal*, Vol. IV (1978), pp. 91-95.

<sup>5</sup> The Mekhitarist collection of 298 Oshin silver pieces (collected over several years) was originally published in Armenian in the 1970s by Fr. Au. Sekoulian (see *Numismatic Studies* (in Armenian) (Vienna, 1982), pp. 75-101).

<sup>6</sup> For the history of Levon III, see articles cited in footnote 3 above.

Religious strife, however, plagued Armenia during Levon's reign. The royal family actively promoted union between the Armenian and Roman Catholic Churches as a means of securing military and political assistance for the beleaguered country. They were opposed in this policy by a substantial number of nobles and citizens (often labelled "nationalists"), who were against any compromise which could weaken the independence of the Armenian Church.

In November 1307, King Levon III, Hetoum II, and forty leading Armenian dignitaries and nobles were invited, under false pretenses, to a meeting with their Mongol allies in the city of Anazarba. Upon arrival, they were mercilessly butchered at the hand of the Mongol general Pilarghou. Historian Michael Chamich claims that the murder of the Armenian king and his entourage was engineered by opponents of religious compromise, although this is doubted by historian Sirarpie Der Nersessian, who notes that none of the available medieval chronicles make this point.<sup>7</sup>

The country and the royal family were outraged at this treacherous act. Oshin, a younger brother of Hetoum II, quickly took the helm of the government, raised an army, and drove the Mongols from Cilicia. He also complained to the great Mongol Khan, who recalled Pilarghou and had him decapitated for his deed. Oshin was crowned king of Armenia in the Cathedral of Saint Sophia at Tarsus in 1308.<sup>8</sup>

During Oshin's reign, confessional strife continued unabated. The king attempted to maintain the religious policies of his predecessors, hoping for an agreement that would bring western aid to assist Armenia against the relentless Moslem attacks. Oshin took stern measures against his opponents. According to historian Samuel Anetsi, Oshin obtained the consent of the Catholicos Gosdantin and some nobles to seize several monks, priests, and lay people who were opposed to the acknowledgement of two distinct natures of Christ, the use of water in the chalice during the Divine Liturgy, and other changes in the Armenian Church ritual.<sup>9</sup> Many of these opponents were killed or exiled to the island of Cyprus. Sarkis, the bishop of Jerusalem, absolutely refused to abide by the dictates of the catholicos, and established the independence of the Patriarchate of Jerusalem at this time. Seeing the futility of these efforts, Oshin ultimately decided to eschew religious disputes and let matters take their natural course.

In 1317, Oshin's first wife Ann died, and shortly afterward he married Johanna, who was descended from the royal family of Sicily. Being thus connected, he requested and was promised military aid from the West. "The western world, however," laments de Morgan, "was losing interest in the fate of Armenia, and all Oshin could obtain was a grant of thirty thousand sequins sent him by the Pope at Avignon, John XXII."<sup>10</sup>

Oshin restored external peace for a few years, but in 1314, troubles began anew. Marauding tribesmen from central Anatolia attacked western Cilicia, but were repulsed by the forces of Baron Oshin, lord of the castle of Gorigos. In 1315, the Egyptian Mamluks invaded from the southeast, capturing the city of Malatia, and in 1316 Laranda (Karaman) too was taken. Hoping to finish the work, the Mamluks returned in 1320 with an army of 18,000 men and began to ravage the Armenian countryside. "Oshin at first was inclined to retreat before the infidels," writes Chamich, but at length 200 courageous Armenian soldiers attacked the Egyptians by surprise in their camp

<sup>7</sup> S. Der Nersessian, "The Kingdom of Cilician Armenia," in *A History of the Crusades*, Vol. II, ed. K. M. Setton (Philadelphia, 1962), p. 658 (see especially footnote 50).

<sup>8</sup> Our principal sources for the history of Oshin's reign are J. de Morgan, *A History of the Armenian People* (Boston, 1965), pp. 246-247; Bedoukian's *Coinage of Cilician Armenia*, pp. 15-16; Michael Chamich, *History of Armenia*, Vol. II (Calcutta, 1827, reprinted in New York in 1990), pp. 278-282; Fr. J. Issaverdens, *Armenia and the Armenians* (Venice, 1874), pp. 339-343; Der Nersessian, *op. cit.*, pp. 657-659; *Armenian Soviet Encyclopedia*, Vol. V, pp. 411 and Vol. XII, pp. 550.

<sup>9</sup> de Morgan, p. 246.

<sup>10</sup> de Morgan, p. 247.

near the port of Ayas.<sup>11</sup> The struggle which ensued could have spelled the end of the kingdom, had the invaders not been trapped and defeated by the Armenians in this decisive confrontation.<sup>12</sup> The battle, at which as many as 6000 Mamluk soldiers lost their lives, took place shortly after Oshin's death in July 1320.

### The Hoard

The present study records a mixed hoard of silver coins attributed to Levon III, Oshin, and Levon IV (1320-1342). Of a total of 58 pieces, 14 are takvorins of Levon III and 42 are takvorins of his successor Oshin. One coronation tram of Oshin and one takvorin of Levon IV complete the collection.

Since the coins were originally available only for limited examination, a preliminary report of the hoard was submitted for publication.<sup>13</sup> Subsequently, it became possible to acquire the entire group and to prepare this complete account.

According to available information, this is a single entire hoard recently unearthed in the Middle East. It changed hands at the New York International Coin Show in December 1992. No information about the circumstances of discovery (date, place, context, identity of the finder, or original composition) is known. It can be assumed that this hoard was tampered with for commercial purposes prior to reaching our hands. The darker surface coloration, worn dies, and noticeable circulation wear on the single Levon IV takvorin (coin 58), and considerable wear on one of the Oshin takvorins (coin 30), suggest that these two pieces are intruders. The remaining coins have similar surface patinas and preservation, suggesting a common origin.

### Description of the coins

**LEVON III TAKVORINS:** Obverse. Clean-shaven king seated on horse riding right but facing forward, carrying a lance over his shoulder. Field marking behind the king is typically three pellets arranged in a triangle. Clockwise Armenian inscription around edge enclosed by double band of fine pellets, reads ԼԵՅՈՒՆ ԹԱԳԱՍՈՐ ԼԱՅՈՑ or variants thereof. Reverse. Lion with curved tail walking to right with a cross above. Field marking is usually a single pellet to the left of the lion's tail. Clockwise Armenian inscription, again enclosed by a double band of fine pellets, reading ՇԻՆԵԱԼ Ի ՔԱՂԱՔՆ ՍԻՍ or variants thereof. Average weight of 14 coins in this hoard 2.43 grams (weight range 2.10 to 2.93 grams).

**OSHIN CORONATION TRAM:** Obverse. Bearded king seated on an ornamented throne facing forward, holding a lily in his left hand and globus cruciger in his right hand. The hand of God is seen in upper right field, anointing the king. Clockwise Armenian inscription enclosed by a double band of fine pellets, reads ՍԻՅՈՒՆ ԹԱԳԱՍՈՐ ԼԱՅՈՑ. Reverse. Two rampant lions facing a long cross, Armenian letter Կ at the base of the cross. Clockwise inscription reads ՎԱՐՈՂՈՒԹՅՈՒՆ ԱՅ Է. Weight of this coin 2.86 grams, Bedoukian type 31.<sup>14</sup> Oshin's coronation trams were intentionally patterned in style, weight, and fineness after the regular trams of Levon I. They are very rare and were struck in limited numbers, probably only in 1308, to commemorate Oshin's elevation to the Armenian throne.

<sup>11</sup> Chamich, p. 280.

<sup>12</sup> It can be argued that, had the Armenians not decided to take the enemy by surprise in this engagement, the Mamluk force would have completely overrun Armenia, spelling the end of the kingdom. The strategic move gave Armenia, in effect, 55 years of further existence. Parallels could be drawn with the surprise capture of Kelbajar and other districts by forces of the Republic of Mountainous Karabagh (Artsakh) in 1993.

<sup>13</sup> L. A. Saryan, "Fourteenth Century Armenian Silver Hoard Discovered," *The Celator*, Vol. VII (May 1993), No. 5, pp. 34-37.

<sup>14</sup> Bedoukian, "A Hoard of Silver Coronation Trams of Oshin," p. 89.

**OSHIN TAKVORINS:** Obverse. Bearded king riding horse and carrying a lance similar to Levon III takvorin, but often slightly cruder in style. Field markings consist typically of one or two Armenian letters, one behind the mounted king, and another in front of or beneath the horse. Armenian inscription, enclosed within bands of pellets reads ԱԻԾԻՆ ԹԱԳԱՒՈՐ ՀԱՅՈՑ or variants. Reverse. Depiction of lion with a cross, as for Levon III, generally slightly cruder in style. Field marking, when present, is typically a pellet to the right of the lion's tail. Reverse inscription reads ԾԻՆԱՄ Ի ԶԱՂԱՔՆ Ի ՍԽԱ or variants thereof. Mean weight for 42 examples in this hoard is 2.41 grams (range 2.10 to 2.65 grams).

Despite great similarities, there are noteworthy differences between the takvorins of Levon III and Oshin. On the takvorins of Levon III, the king appears clean-shaven, since he assumed the throne before the age of majority, whereas Oshin appears with a beard. The reverse field mark (usually a dot) appears to the left of the tail on Levon III and to the right of the tail on coins of Oshin. Oshin's die engravers used Armenian characters as obverse field marks, unlike Levon III. Most of the Oshin takvorins in this hoard (34 of 42 examples) and elsewhere (125 of 213 examples listed in Bedoukian's *Coinage of Cilician Armenia*) use the term ԾԻՆԱՄ in the reverse inscription; this is not seen on coins of Levon III. Taken together, these observations indicate that Oshin introduced several changes into mint practice after assuming the Armenian throne.

**LEVON IV TAKVORIN:** Virtually identical to takvorins of Oshin, except for the obverse inscription reading ԼԵՒՈՆ ԹԱԳԱՒՈՐ ՀԱՅՈՑ. Weight is 2.21 grams, Bedoukian type 1982 variety. The spelling of the word "made" on the reverse is ԾԻՆԱՄ, an unusual variant for this king.

### Cataloguing the hoard

The coins were first classified according to Bedoukian's *Coinage of Cilician Armenia*, by king, type, and completeness of the inscription. Levon III takvorins were further subdivided according to obverse and reverse designs as outlined in recent studies.<sup>15</sup> The assigned die numbers for Levon III takvorins correlate with those previously used by Saryan and Hajinian.<sup>16</sup> The Oshin coronation tram and the Levon IV takvorin were classified according to Bedoukian's previous studies.<sup>17</sup> The catalogue is presented in Table I.


Examination of the Oshin takvorins showed that classification based on design and field markings was possible. The coins were first arranged according to Bedoukian corpus numbers. A classification based on the design of the coins was then devised, utilizing obverse field letters and the style of lance carried by the king. Reverses were classified according to the shape of the lion's tail and presence or absence of a pellet or other field mark. To simplify the work of future researchers, diagrams of the various types presented in Tables II and III. Many varieties of Oshin takvorins exist which are not covered by this hoard (such as Bedoukian types 1887-1889 (Obv./S), 1891 and 1924 (Obv. Թ/Մ), and 1892-1894 (Obv. /S)); consequently, the classification has been designed for expansion as more coins are described. Finally, after careful comparison of all specimens, die numbers were assigned.

<sup>15</sup> See footnote 3 above.


<sup>16</sup> *op. cit.* in footnote 3 above.

<sup>17</sup> Bedoukian, CAA, pp. 368-374, and Bedoukian, "A Hoard of Silver Coronation Trams of Oshin," *op. cit.*

Table I. Catalogue of Levon III and Oshin Takvorins

No	Bed No	Reverse Legend		†	Wt	Obv m/m	Obv/Rev Die	Pl
<b>LEVON III</b>								
+ԱԵԻՈՆ ԹԱԳԱՒՈՐ ՀԱՅՈՑ								
001	1734	+ԾԻՆԵԱԼ Ի ՔԱՂԱՔՆ ՍԻՍ Է	1c	A13	2.48		05	04
+ԱԵԻՈՆ ԹԱԳԱՒՈՐ ՀԱՅՈՑ								
002	1742	+ԾԻՆԵԱԼ Ի ՔԱՂԱՔՆ ՍԻՍ	3b	A2	2.35		15	36
003	1743	+ԾԻՆԵԱԼ Ի ՔԱՂԱՔՆ ՍԻ	3b	A2	2.23		15	42
004	1745	+ԾԻՆԵԱԼ Ի ՔԱՂԱՔՆ Ս	3a	A7	2.10		21	58
+ԱԵԻՈՆ ԹԱԳԱՒՈՐ ՀԱՅՈՑ								
005	1758	+ԾԻՆԵԱԼ Ի ՔԱՂԱՔՆ ՍԻՍ	1b	A7	2.27		29	72
+ԱԵԻՈՆ ԹԱԳԱՒՈՐ ՀԱՅՈՑ								
006	1766V	+ԾԻՆԵԱԼ Ի ՔԱՂԱՔՆ ՍԻ	7a	A5	2.42		71	136 *
+ԱԵԻՈՆ ԹԱԳԱՒՈՐ ՀԱՅՈՑ								
007	1772a	+ԾԻՆԵԼ Ի ՔԱՂԱՔՆ Ի ՍԻՍ	5a	B7	2.27		73	138 *
+ԱԵԻՈՆ ԹԱԳԱՒՈՐ ՀԱՅՈՑ° (obverse: two staffs)								
008	1776V	+ԾԻՆԵԱԼ ՔԱՂԱՔՆ ՍԻՍ	4d	B6	2.93		39	140
+ԱԵԻՈՆ ԹԱԳԱՒՈՐ ՀԱՅՈՑ'								
009	1778	+ԾԻՆԵԱԼ Ի ՔԱՂԱՔՆ ՍԻ	1c	A11	2.75		47	70
010	1778a	+ԾԻՆԵԱԼ Ի ՔԱՂԱՔՆ ՍԻ	1c	A9	2.46		47	50
+ԱԵԻՈՆ ԹԱԳԱՒՈՐ ՀԱՅՈՑ'								
011	1791	+ԾԻՆԵԱԼ Ի ՔԱՂԱՔՆ ՍԻՍ	1c	A12	2.37		55	104
012	1793	+ԾԻՆԵԱԼ Ի ՔԱՂԱՔՆ ՍԻՍ	1c	A7	2.58		75	72 *
013	1795a	+ԾԻՆԵԱԼ Ի ՔԱՂԱՔՆ Լ	1c	A2	2.45		55	78
+ԱԵԻՈՆ ԹԱԳԱՒՈՐ ՀԱՅՈՑ								
014	1801V	+ԾԻՆԵԱԼ ՔԱՂԱՔՆ ՍԻՍ	3a	B3	2.30		77	142
<b>OSHIN</b>								
+ՍԻՇԻՆ ԹԱԳԱՒՈՐ ՀԱՅՈՑ								
015	HAR31	+ԱՐՈՐՈՒԹԻՔՆ ԱՅ Է	-	-	2.86	-	-	- *
+ՍԻՇԻՆ ԹԱԳԱՒՈՐ ՀԱՅՈՑ								
016	1851V	+ԾԻՆԱԾ Ի ՔԱՂԱՔՆ ՍԻ	9a	A1	2.32	-	01	02 *
017	1852V	+ԾԻՆԵԱԼ Ի ՔԱՂԱՔՆ ՍԻՍ Է triangle reverse	2a	A2	2.54	/B	03	04 *
+ՍԻՇԻՆ ԹԱԳԱՒՈՐ ՀԱՅՈՑ								
018	1857	+ԾԻՆԱԾ Ի ՔԱՂԱՔՆ ՍԻՍ	3a	A1	2.65	e/	05	06
+ՍԻՇԻՆ ԹԱԳԱՒՈՐ ՀԱՅՈՑ'								
019	1860V	+ԾԻՆԵԱԼ Ի ՔԱՂԱՔՆ ՍԻ reverse spelling error	1b	B1	2.39	/B	07	08 *
+ՍԻՇԻՆ ԹԱԳԱՒՈՐ ՀԱՅՈՑ								
020	1863V	+ԾԻՆԵԼ Ի ՔԱՂԱՔՆ ՍԻՍ reverse spelling error	1a	B2	2.59	/B	09	10
021	1863a	+ԾԻՆԵԼ Ի ՔԱՂԱՔՆ ՍԻՍ	1c	B3	2.53	/B	11	12 *
022	1866a	+ԾԻՆԱԾ Ի ՔԱՂԱՔՆ ՍԻ Լ	1c	B2	2.19	/B	13	14
+ՍԻՇԻՆ ԹԱԳԱՒՈՐ ՀԱՅՈՑ								
023	1870	+ԾԻՆԱԾ Ի ՔԱՂԱՔՆ ՍԻՍ	2a	A3	2.41	/B	15	16
024	1871V	+ԾԻՆԱԾ Ի ՔԱՂԱՔՆ ՍԻՍ	2b	B4	2.54	/B	17	18 *
025	1873	+ԾԻՆԱԾ Է Ի ՔԱՂԱՔՆ ՍԻՍ	2b	B4	2.40	/B	17	20



No	Bed No	Reverse Legend		†	Wt	Obv m/m	Obv/Rev Die	PI
+ԱԻԾԻՆ ԹԱԳԱՒԻՐ ՀԱՅՈ								
026	1877	+ԾԻՆԱՍ Է Ի ՔԱՂԱՔՆ ՍԻՍ	4a	A5	2.46	8/2	19	22
027	1878a	+ԾԻՆԱՍ Ի ՔԱՂԱՔՆ ՍԻՍ'	4a	A3	2.50	8/2	19	24 *
028	1878b	+ԾԻՆԱՍ Ի ՔԱՂԱՔՆ ՍԻՍ	4a	A5	2.53	8/2	19	26
029	1878b	+ԾԻՆԱՍ Ի ՔԱՂԱՔՆ ՍԻՍ	4a	A5	2.49	8/2	19	28
030	1879V	+ԾԻՆԱՍ Ի ՔԱՂԱՔՆ ՍԻՍ	4a	A5	2.27	8/2	19	30
+ԱԻԾԻՆ ԹԱԳԱՒԻՐ ՀԱՅՈ								
031	1882V	+ԾԻՆԵԱԼ Ի ՔԱՂԱՔՆ Ի Ս	8a	C1	2.40	Ա/Մ	21	32 *
+ԱԻԾԻՆ ԹԱԳԱՒԻՐ ՀԱՅՈ								
032	1883V	+ԾԻՆԱՍ Ի ՔԱՂԱՔՆ ՍԻՍ no lance, m/m U between hind legs	5a	A8	2.16	8/Ս	23	34 *
+ԱԻԾԻՆ ԹԱԳԱՒԻՐ ՀԱՅ'								
033	1906b	+ԾԻՆԱՍ Ի ՔԱՂԱՔՆ ՍԻ	1a	B4	2.44	/B	25	36 *
+ԱԻԾԻՆ ԹԱԳԱՒԻՐ ՀԱՅ								
034	1908	+ԾԻՆԱՍ Ի ՔԱՂԱՔՆ ՍԻ	2c	A3	2.58	/B	27	38 *
035	1908	+ԾԻՆԱՍ Ի ՔԱՂԱՔՆ ՍԻ	2c	A3	2.50	/B	27	40 *
036	1908	+ԾԻՆԱՍ Ի ՔԱՂԱՔՆ ՍԻ reverse dot missing	2c	A3	2.28	/B	27	40
+ԱԻԾԻՆ ԹԱԳԱՒԻՐ ՀԱՅ								
037	1914V	+ԾԻՆԵԱԼ Ի ՔԱՂԱՔՆ ՍԻ	1a	B5	2.37	/B	29	42
038	1919	+ԾԻՆԱԼ Ի ՔԱՂԱՔՆ ՍԻՍ	1a	B1	2.37	/B	31	44
+ԱԻԾԻՆ ԹԱԳԱՒԻՐ ՀԱՅ								
039	1920a	+ԾԻՆԱՍ Է Ի ՔԱՂԱՔ ՍԻ	10a	B2	2.30	/y	33	46 *
+ԱԻԾԻՆ ԹԱԳԱՒԻՐ ՀԱՅ								
040	1921	+ԾԻՆԵԱԼ Ի ՔԱՂԱՔՆ Ի Ս	8b	C1	2.34	Ա/Մ	35	32
041	1923	+ԾԻՆԱՍ Ի ՔԱՂԱՔՆ Ի Ս	8f	C2	2.23	Ա/Մ	37	48
042	1923	+ԾԻՆԱՍ Ի ՔԱՂԱՔՆ Ի Ս	8d	C2	2.37	Ա/Մ	39	50 *
043	1923a	+ԾԻՆԱՍ Ի ՔԱՂԱՔՆ	8d	C3	2.10	Ա/Մ	39	52
044	1923a	+ԾԻՆԱՍ Ի ՔԱՂԱՔՆ	8e	C3	2.43	Ա/Մ	41	52
045	1923V	+ԾԻՆԱՍ Ի ՔԱՂԱՔՆ Ի Ս (?)	8c	C1	2.37	Ա/Մ	43	54
+ԱԻԾԻՆ ԹԱԳԱՒԻՐ ՀԱՅ								
046	1925	+ԾԻՆԱՍ Ի ՔԱՂԱՔ ՍԻՍ	7a	A4	2.64	Գ/Մ	45	56
047	1926	+ԾԻՆԱՍ Ի ՔԱՂԱՔ ՍԻ	7b	A4	2.24	Գ/Մ	47	58
048	1926	+ԾԻՆԱՍ Ի ՔԱՂԱՔ ՍԻ	7c	A3	2.57	Գ/Մ	49	60
049	1926a	+ԾԻՆԱՍ Ի ՔԱՂԱՔ Ս	7c	A4	2.54	Գ/Մ	51	62
050	1927	+ԾԻՆԱՍ Ի ՔԱՂԱՔ ՍԻ	7b	A4	2.47	Գ/Մ	53	64
051	1927	+ԾԻՆԱՍ Ի ՔԱՂԱՔ ՍԻ	7c	A4	2.40	Գ/Մ	55	66 *
052	1927a	+ԾԻՆԱՍ Ի ՔԱՂԱՔ ՍԻ	7d	A7	2.38	Գ/Տ	57	68 *
+ԱԻԾԻՆ ԹԱԳԱՒԻՐ ՀԱՅ								
053	1928	+ԾԻՆԱՍ Ի ՔԱՂԱՔՆ ՍԻ reverse dot missing	6a	A3	2.52	Է/2	59	40 *
+ԱԻԾԻՆ ԹԱԳԱՒԻՐ ՀԱՅ								
054	1931	+ԾԻՆԱՍ Ի ՔԱՂԱՔ ՍԻՍ	7b	A1	2.53	Գ/Մ	61	70
055	1932	+ԾԻՆԱՍ Ի ՔԱՂԱՔ ՍԻ	7b	A4	2.32	Գ/Մ	61	66
056	1932V	+ԾԻՆԱՍ Է ՔԱՂԱՔ ՍԻ	7e	A3	2.27	Գ/Մ	63	72 *
057	1932V	+ԾԻՆԱՍ Ի ՔԱՂԱՔ ՍԻ	7c	A6	2.41	Գ/Մ	65	74

## LEVON IV

+ԱԻԾԻՆ ԹԱԳԱՒԻՐ ՀԱՅՈ

058	1982V	+ԾԻՆԱՍ Ի ՔԱՂԱՔՆ	-	-	2.21	Գ/յ	-	-
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### Metrology

The weight of each coin was determined to the nearest hundredth of a gram using a top-loading electronic balance. The Levon III takvorins showed an average weight of 2.43 grams. Weights ranged between extremes of 2.10 and 2.93 grams with a standard deviation of 0.22 grams, yielding a coefficient of variation of 8.9%. The dispersion about the mean is slightly greater than observed previously for takvorins of this king.

The Oshin takvorins proved to have nearly the same mean weight and extreme limits as the Levon III coins. The mean of Oshin takvorins was 2.41 grams (range extremes of 2.10 to 2.65 grams) with a standard deviation of 0.13 grams and coefficient of variation of 5.4%.

It can be seen from these figures that the takvorins of Levon III and Oshin were nearly identical in weight and tolerance, and probably had equivalent values in the marketplace. It is not unreasonable to suppose that takvorins of Levon III and Oshin circulated together during Oshin's reign. Discovery of other mixed hoards of these kings may be expected in the future.

The single coronation tram of Oshin weighed 2.86 grams (typical for trams of kings Levon I and Hetoum). The single takvorin of Levon IV (2.21 grams) is within the range of coins from this king.

### Oshin die study

The few examples of Levon III takvorins in the present group do not add much to the information already available about the dies of this king. The Oshin takvorins, on the other hand, present some interesting features.

First of all, the 42 Oshin takvorins in this group present a very wide but incomplete range of die varieties. Thirty-three different obverses and 37 different reverses were observed; the great majority, therefore, appear only once in the hoard. It is also clear that within the obverse groups die engravers and craftsmen of greater and lesser skill were employed. Specifically, the dies of obverse type 8 (field letters U/U') are of cruder workmanship, and the reverses with which they are paired (type C) are likewise artistically lacking.

Even in this small sample, it can be seen that specific obverses and reverses appear to travel together, implying (as did the same observation for Levon III)<sup>18</sup> that coins were struck in separate workshops or for discrete periods of time. Note that obverse types 4 and 7 are linked with reverse type A, that obverse type 8 is associated with reverse type C, and that obverse type 1 is paired to reverse type B. Sekoulian has suggested that the obverse field letters may represent the initials of the engravers, and this may well be the case; for example, coins of obverse class 1 appear to be engraved by a single hand, and coins of class 8 by a different hand.

It is interesting to note that, of the three examples of reverse die 40 (coins 35, 36, and 53), two appear to be of a later state. The die was originally engraved with a field dot (coin 35), which is missing from coins 36 and 53. The available examples do not allow us to decide if the missing dot is due to accidental die damage, intentional obliteration, or a striking flaw.























Despite the small number of Oshin takvorins in this sample it is possible to use die-identity data to estimate the number of dies used for Oshin's takvorin coinage.<sup>19</sup> This estimate must be regarded as tentative because of the relatively small number of coins

<sup>18</sup> See footnote 3 above.

<sup>19</sup> W. W. Esty, "Estimation of the Size of Coinage: A Survey and Comparison of Methods," *Numismatic Chronicle*, Vol. 146 (1986), pp. 185-215. The method of Good was selected, pp. 189-190, 208.

















in this hoard. The calculation reveals that the size of Oshin's coinage may have amounted to as many as  $98 \pm 18$  obverse dies and  $152 \pm 26$  reverse dies. If each reverse die was responsible for an average of 30,000 coins, the size of Oshin's takvorin coinage could have varied between 3.7 and 5.3 million coins.

Table II. Oshin takvorin obverse matrix of lance design

Field marks left/right	a	b	c	d	e	f
1. $\cdot/\beta$						
2. $/\beta$						
3. $\epsilon/$						
4. $\beta/\angle$ or $\beta/\downarrow$						
5. $\beta/U$	no lance					
6. $\epsilon/\angle$ or $\epsilon/\downarrow$						
7. $\eta/U^*$ or $\eta/S$						
8. $U/U^*$						
9. no field marks						
10. $\cdot/y$						

Note: Obverse left field mark is above the horse's tail. The right field mark is usually beneath the horse's head; types 4 and 5 are exceptions.

Table III. Oshin takvorins, reverse styles

A. Good style, end of tail points vertically	B. Good style, end of tail points to left	C. Rough style work- manship and lettering
1.  4 branches, no dot	1.  3 br. end, dot	1.  3 br., dot
2.  4 br., triangle	2.  2 br. end, dot	2.  4 br., no dot
3.  4 br., dot	3.  bushy end, dot	3.  3 br., no dot
4.  4 br., dot, ornate cross	4.  3 nearly equal br. end, dot	
5.  5 br., dot	5.  knot end, dot	
6.  3 br., dot		
7.  3 br. + dot, free dot		
8.  5 br., no dot		

Note: Crosses generally do not vary appreciably, except A4; lion's paws are usually similar.

### Conclusion

The composition of this hoard indicates that silver takvorins of Levon III and Oshin had comparable weights and that the coins of the two kings circulated together during the reign of Oshin. This is confirmed by Bedoukian in an article on Arabic overstruck

coins of this period.<sup>20</sup> Close study of the coins indicates that Oshin made several changes in mint practice during his rule. This hoard was possibly buried during the turmoil which befell Cilician Armenia between 1314 and 1320.

It seems that the coverage of Oshin takvorin die varieties by this hoard is limited; the absence of several varieties recorded in Bedoukian reflects the comparatively small number of examples in this hoard, and may also indicate that this hoard was buried toward the middle of Oshin's reign. It may be tentatively suggested that Oshin's takvorin coinage required about 100 obverse and 150 reverse dies.<sup>21</sup>

## ԼԵՒՈՆ Գ-Ի ԵՒ ՕՇԻՆԻ ԱՐԾԱԹ ԴՐԱՄՆԵՐՈՒ ԳԱՆՁ ՄԸ

[Ամփոփում]

Ծարդ առաջին անգամ ըլլալով կը տեղեկագրուի Լևոն Գ-ի և Օշին խառն արծաթներու դրամագիւտ մը, բաղկացած 58 կտոր դրամներէ: 14 Լևոն Գ-ի և 42 Օշինի թագուորիններ, 1 կտոր Օշինի օծման դրամ և 1 թագուորին Լևոն Գ-ին:

Դրամագիւտը դասաւորուեցաւ ըստ Պտուկեանի Կիլիկեան Հայաստանի դրամները կոթողային բանասիրութեան ուղղութեամբ, թագաւորին ժամանակաշրջան կարգով, դրամի տիպով և խորագրութեան կատարելութեամբ: Լևոն Գ-ի դրամներուն համար օգտագործեցին նաև հեղինակին նախապէս հրատարակած աշխատանքը:

Օշինի թագուորիններուն դասաւորումը հիմնուեցաւ երեսի ու կռնակի պատկերատիպերուն ու դաշտի նշաններուն վրայ, որոնց բոլորին համար զօտագրութիւններ պատրաստուեցան հեղինակին կողմէ:

Այս դրամագիւտի բաղադրութիւնը կը վաւերացնէ, թէ Լևոն Գ-ի և Օշինի թագուորինները ունեցած են բաղադրութիւնի կշիռներ և այս երկու թագաւորներու դրամները միատեղ շրջանառութիւնը բրած են Օշինի գահակալութեան ընթացքին: Այս հաստատուած է նաև Պտուկեանի կողմէ արաբերէնով կրկնադրուած դրամներու վերաբերեալ յօդուածի մը մէջ:

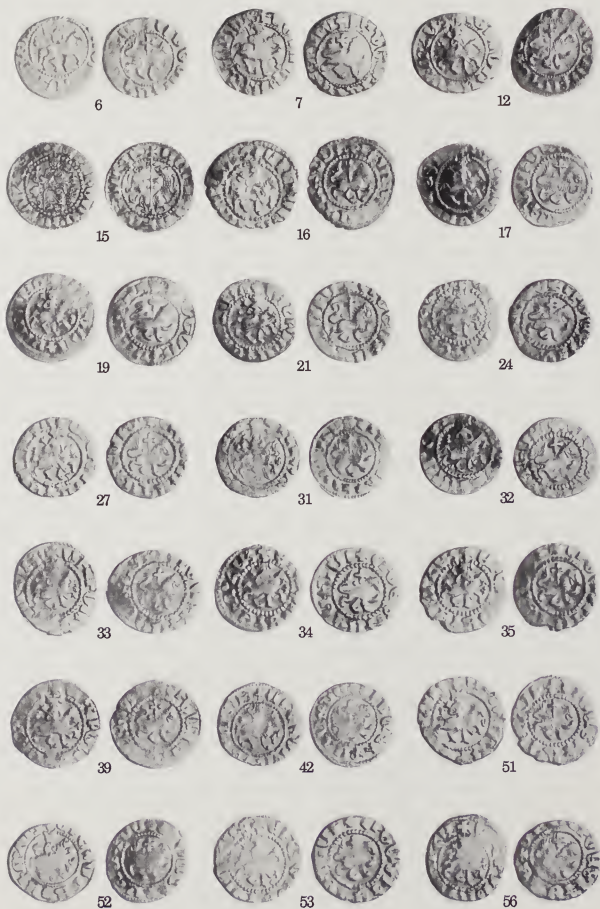
Դրամներու ուսումնասիրութիւնը ցոյց կու տայ, թէ Օշին կատարած է բաւարար փոփոխութիւններ դրամահատարանի գործունէութեան մէջ: Կ'ենթադրուի թէ այս դրամագիւտը թաղուած ըլլայ 1314-1320 թուականներու խառնակութեան ընթացքին:

Պտուկեանի կողմէ ցուցակագրուած Օշինի դրամներուն քանի մը տարբերակները կը բացակային այս դրամագիւտին մէջ: Այս նաև կը նշանակէ, թէ դրամագիւտը թաղուած է Օշինի գահակալութեան շրջանի կիսուն: Ըստ դրամագիւտի քննութեան, նաև կ'ենթադրուի թէ Օշինի թագուորիններու ընդհանուր սահմանը պահանջած ըլլայ օտո 100 երեսի և 150 կռնակի կնիքներ:

ԼԵՒՈՆ Ա. ՍԱՐԵԱՆ

<sup>20</sup> P. Z. Bedoukian, "Some Armenian Coins Overstruck in Arabic," *Selected Numismatic Studies* (Los Angeles, 1981), pp. 161-171.

<sup>21</sup> The assistance of Y. T. Nercessian and Charles A. Hajinian in the preparation of this paper is gratefully acknowledged.



Levon A Saryan, A Silver Coin Hoard of Levon III and Oshin



# THE ARMENIAN COIN AUCTION OF CLASSICAL NUMISMATIC GROUP, INC. (1993)

A substantial Armenian coin collection, consigned to the Classical Numismatic Group, Inc., was auctioned by mail bid on September 29, 1993.<sup>1</sup> Altogether, 234 lots (444 coins) are listed: the Armenian kingdom of Sophene (2 coins), the Artaxiads of Armenia (31), the kingdom of Commagene (3), Roman Coins relating to Armenia (7), Nabatea (1), Islamic coins struck in the cities of historic Armenia (201), Cilician Armenia (199). Numerous lots contained more than one coin. Coins issued by Armenian dynasties totaled 235 pieces.

Coins of kingdom of Sophene include examples of kings Arsames I and Abdissares. The Artaxiad dynasty is represented by Tigranes I, Tigranes II, Artavasdes II, Tigranes III, Tigranes IV, and Tigranes V. The Roupinian dynasty includes coins from three barons and all of the kings. The earliest coin was issued by Arsames I (ca. 240 B.C.) and the latest coin was issued by King Levon V (1375).

It was not indicated to whom the coins belonged. The entire auction catalogue was composed under the careful direction of Victor England. The ancient Armenian coins were catalogued by the staff of the CNG, and the Cilician Armenian coins were attributed by Y. T. Nercessian. The catalogue was professionally prepared: each coin was illustrated by excellent photographs, Bedoukian corpus numbers, metrological data, and Greek legends indicated. Unfortunately the legends of Islamic and Cilician Armenian coins were not published.<sup>2</sup>

Generally speaking, realistic prices were realized. However, in some cases collectors pushed prices higher, and in few cases coins sold for substantially less than their estimates. Arsames and Abdissares coppers in fine condition were obtained at record prices; on the other hand, some tetradrachms and a drachm of Tigranes the Great sold considerably lower than the estimates. Rare Roupinian coins, such as bilingual half trams, exceeded expectations, yet a tram of King Gosdantin I brought 75% of the estimate at the hammer. Generally, very rare and unusual coins appeared to do well. According to the "prices realized" provided by the CNG, most of the coins sold.<sup>3</sup> The total estimated price for 234 lots was \$54,500, and it netted \$55,015 (including the 10% buyer's fee).

The collection includes some noteworthy rarities: Augustus aureus (ARMENIA CAPTA), al-Mutawakkil gold dinar inscribed Arminiya (A.H. 232-247), copper coins of barons Roupin I and Toros I, Levon I one lion coronation tram, Levon II tram with Hetoum-Zabel tram design, Gosdantin I tram and kardez, and a billon denier of Levon V (who ruled less than eight months).

The statistical data is tabulated and offered to our readers as a useful guide to current prevailing prices and for posterity. The price quoted includes the sale price plus the 10% buyer's fee.

Y. T. NERCESSIAN

<sup>1</sup> Classical Numismatic Group, *Auction XXVII: A Mail Bid Auction Sale of Classical Coins*, compiled by Victor England. Quarryville, Pennsylvania and London, England: Classical Numismatic Group, Inc., September 29, 1993, pp. 5-25, Nos. 1-234.

<sup>2</sup> Abbreviations: CAA, *Coinage of the Artaxiads of Armenia*; CCA, *Coinage of Cilician Armenia*; CSC, *Coinage of the Armenian Kingdoms of Sophene and Commagene*; Foss, "The Coinage of Tigranes the Great," *NC* 1986; RIC, *Roman Imperial Coinage*; ADB, *Attribution and Dating of Armenian Bilingual Trams*.

<sup>3</sup> The prices realized had a few typographical errors. The correct hammer price was obtained by telephone from the CNG staff.

## CATALOGUE

No.	Ruler	Coin	Reference	Grade	US\$ Est.	US\$ Sold
001.	Arsames I	Copper	CSC 3	F	150	363
002.	Abissares	Copper	CSC 16	F	200	303
003.	Tigranes I	Æ /branch	CAA 3	-F	100	—
004.		Æ /branch	CAA 3	-F	100	193
005.		Æ /Zeus	CAA 4	F	100	154
006.	Tigranes II	Tetradrachm	CAA 17	VF+	1000	660
007.		Tetradrachm	CAA 24	VF+	1000	1,100
008.		Tetradrachm	CAA 19	VF	1000	660
009.		Tetradrachm	CAA 20	VF	750	693
010.		Tetradrachm	CAA 28V	VF+	1000	1100
011.		Drachm	CAA75	VF	1500	1,100
012.		Æ /Tyche	CAA 94V	VF+	200	143
013.		Æ /Heracles	CAA 99	VF+	100	66
014.		Æ / Heracles	CAA 99	VF+	100	127
015.		Æ /Cornucopiae	CAA 104	VF+	75	132
016.		Æ /Cornucopiae	CAA 106	VF	75	50
017.		Æ /Wheat	CAA 107	VF	75	50
018.		2 Æ /Wheat	CAA 107	F	100	66
019.		Æ /Nike	CAA 114	VF	125	83
020.		2 Æ /Nike	CAA 114	VF	150	99
021.		Æ /Nike	CAA 120	VF	100	71
022.		Æ /Palm-branch	CAA 121	F/VF	100	71
023.		Æ /Tripod	CAA 122	-VF	75	61
024.		Æ /Tripod	CAA 122	VF+/-F	75	50
025.		Æ /Horse	Foss 105	VF	100	149
026.	Mithridates I	Æ Eagle/palm	CSC 23	-VF	125	204
027.	Should be given to Antiochus Theos	Æ /Lion	CSC 25	Poor	75	41
028.	Aretas II, Nabataea	Æ /Nike	Meshorer 1	F+	100	77
029.	Artavasdes II	Æ /Nike	CAA 132	-VF	150	193
030.	Tigranes III	Æ /Eagle	CAA 138	VF	125	220
031.	Tigranes IV	Æ /Nike	CAA 148	-F	100	264
032.		Æ /Heracles	CAA 153	F	150	396
033.		Æ /Eagle	CAA 156	F	75	138
034.	Tigranes V	Æ /Augustus	CAA 167	-F	1500	1,788
035.	Anonymous	Æ Tiara/horse	GH 166-533	VF	200	154
036.	Augustus	AV /Armenia Capta	RIC 1514	VF	7500	5,775
037.		AR /Armenia Capta	RIC 672	F	500	528
038.	Marcus Aurelius	AR /ARMEN	RIC III 81	VF+	200	220
039.		AR /ARMEN	RIC III 501	F	100	105
040.	Lucius Verus	Æ /Sohemus stng	RIC III 1374	F	400	303
041.		Æ /ARMEN	RIC III 1364	VF	200	264
042.	Hanniballianus	Æ Rex Armeniacus	RIC VIII 147	F	200	275
043.	El-Walid	AR dirham AH 94		VF	200	517
044.	Anonymous	AR AH 95		VF	100	198
045.		AR AH 96		EF	150	259
046.	Sulayman	AR AH 99		VF	150	259
047.	Ishak Ibn Muslim	Æ Fals		-VF	200	369
048.		3 AR AH 97-101		F	75	121
049.	al-Mansur	AR AH 132-158		VF	150	314
050.		AR AH 151		VF+	150	292

No.	Ruler	Coin	Reference	Grade	US\$ Est.	US\$ Sold
051.	al-Mansur	AR AH 143		VF+	150	176
052.		AR AH 145		VF	100	132
053.		AR AH 146		-VF	100	182
054.		AR AH 148		VF	150	303
055.		AR AH 149		VF	150	259
056.		AR AH 151		VF	150	314
057.		AR AH 152		VF+	150	303
058.		AR AH 153		VF	100	209
059.		AR AH 154		VF	150	303
060.		AR AH 155		VF+	150	292
061.	al-Mahdi	AR AH 162		VF	100	88
062.		AR AH 166		VF	100	193
063.		AR AH 170		VF	150	303
064.	al-Rashid	AR AH 185		-EF	200	330
065.		AR AH 186		-EF	200	385
066.		AR AH 188		VF	150	292
067.		AR AH 170		VF	150	314
068.	al-Mutawakkil	AV AH 246		VF	2500	6,380
069.	al-Mu'tazz	AR AH 252		F	75	220
070.	al-Mu'tamid	AR AH 276		VF	125	292
071.	al-Mahdi	2 AR AH 161, 167		-VF	75	193
072.	Tughril	AR AH 608		VF	75	39
073.	Kilij Arslan	3 AR AH 658, 60, 62		-EF	100	72
074.	Ilkhanid	45 AR AH 694-744		F to EF	650	385
075.	Eretnid	9 AR AH 736-753		F to EF	250	—
076.	Husayn	4 AR AH 776-784		F to VF	75	—
077.	Qara Qoyunlu & Aq Qoyunlu	5 AR AH 814-896		F to VF	75	66
078.	Safavid	72 pieces		F to EF	1200	1,045
079.	Nadir Shah	AR AH 1149		VF+	75	44
080.	Ibrahim	AR AH 1162		VF+	125	49
081.	Fath' Ali Shah	1 AV, 2 AR		F to VF	175	231
082.	Islamic mixed	25 pieces		P to VF	200	303
083.	Baron Roupen I	Copper		VF	500	451
084.	Baron Toros I	Copper		F	750	633
085.	Baron Levon II	Copper		-VF	750	660
086.	King Levon I	Double tram	CCA17V	VF	300	281
087.		Double tram	CCA20	-EF	350	330
088.		Double tram	CCA20	EF	500	550
089.		Double tram	CCA23	VF	300	363
090.		Double tram	CCA23	EF	500	330
091.		1/2 Double tram	CCA 44	VF+	125	123
092.		1/2 Double tram	CCA 54	VF+	150	182
093.		1/2 Double tram	CCA 54	VF+	150	99
094.		1/2 Double tram	CCA 58	VF+	150	83
095.		1/2 Double tram	CCA 67	VF+	300	330
096.		1/2 Tram	CCA 73	VF+	300	303
097.		1/2 Tram	CCA 73	VF+	300	220
098.		1/2 Tram	CCA 75/74	VF+	300	176
099.		1 Lion cor. tram	CCA 78a/77b	VF	750	550
100.		1 Lion cor. tram	CCA 80	VF	750	660

No.	Ruler	Coin	Reference	Grade	US\$ Est.	US\$ Sold
101.	Levon I	two Lion cor tram	CCA 82	EF	150	99
102.		two Lion cor tram	CCA 83	EF	150	83
103.		two Lion cor tram	CCA 84	EF	150	61
104.		two Lion cor tram	CCA 89	-EF	150	138
105.		two Lion cor tram	CCA 96	-EF	150	77
106.		two Lion cor tram	CCA 98	VF+	125	55
107.		two Lion cor tram	CCA 110	VF	100	79
108.		two Lion cor tram	CCA 116	VF+	125	55
109.		Tram	CCA 124	EF	100	138
110.		Tram	CCA 125	EF	100	99
111.		Tram	CCA 126	EF	100	73
112.		Tram	CCA 211	EF	100	121
113.		Tram	CCA 221b	EF	100	44
114.		Tram	CCA 225	EF	100	61
115.		Tram	CCA 227	VF+	75	105
116.		Tram	CCA 228	VF+	75	105
117.		Tram	CCA 236	EF	100	83
118.		Tram	CCA 241	EF	100	44
119.		Tram	CCA 241V	EF	100	44
120.		Tram	CCA 243V	EF	100	121
121.		Tram	CCA 244	EF	100	44
122.		Tram	CCA 249	EF	100	66
123.		Tram	CCA 267	EF	100	44
124.		Tram	CCA 292	EF	100	44
125.		Tram	CCA 296	EF	100	44
126.		Tram	CCA 313	EF	100	44
127.		Tram	CCA 633a	EF	100	44
128.		Tram, lily in r/h	CCA 665c	-EF	100	44
129.		5 Trams	CCA 211,25, 241,41V,313	VF to EF	150	110
130.	Hetoum-Kaiqobad	Tank	CCA 718	VF+	50	61
131.		Tank	CCA 718	VF+	50	77
132.		Tank	CCA 718	VF+	50	44
133.		Tram	CCA 776	VF	100	143
134.		2 Trams	CCA 776,783	VF	150	209
135.	Hetoum-Kaikhusr.	Tram	ADB 42	VF	125	138
136.		Tram	CCA 794	EF	150	264
137.		Tram	CCA 815	EF	150	182
138.		Tram	CCA 818V	EF	150	220
139.		Tram	CCA 822V	VF+	100	121
140.	Hetoum-Kaiqobad	1/2 Tram	CCA 838V	VF	500	605
141.	Hetoum-Kaikhusr.	1/2 Tram	CCA 839	VF	500	605
142.	Hetoum-Zabel	Tram	CCA 871	EF	50	39
143.		Tram	CCA 882	EF	50	44
144.		Tram	CCA 887	EF	50	—
145.		Tram	CCA 894	EF+	50	88
146.		Tram	CCA 896	EF+	75	121
147.		Tram	CCA 915	EF+	75	88
148.		5 Trams	CCA 896,929, 985,1007,1010	VF+ to EF	50	68
149.		8 Trams	CCA 1014,32, 36,50,63,1165,92 1216	VF to EF	225	112
150.		Tram	CCA 1223	-EF	100	33

No.	Ruler	Coin	Reference	Grade	US\$ Est.	US\$ Sold
151.	Hetoum-Zabel	1/2 Tram	CCA 1284aV	VF	150	160
152.	Hetoum I	Tank	CCA 1304V	VF	50	61
153.		Kardez equest.	CCA 1376	F+	50	41
154.		Kardez king std	CCA 1406	F+	50	33
155.		5 Æ, 2 tank	CCA1305,38			
		2 eq. kardezzes	CCA1374,77			
		1 kardez king std	CCA 1408	F	100	45
156.	Levon II	Tram H-Z type	CCA 1425	-EF	300	220
157.		Tram H-Z type	CCA 1425	-EF	300	220
158.		Tram	CCA 1438	EF	125	105
159.		Tram	CCA 1445	VF	75	110
160.		Tram	CCA 1449	EF	125	143
161.		Tram	CCA 1456	EF	125	193
162.		Tram	CCA 1460	VF	75	55
163.		Tram	CCA 1498	VF+	100	121
164.		Tram	CCA 1501	VF+	100	83
165.		Tram, Ayas mint	CCA 1512V	VF	100	77
166.		5 Trams	1 Ayas mint CCA 1454, 1455V(2),477 1491	VF	225	165
167.		1/2 Tram	CCA 1531	VF	125	83
168.		1/2 Tram	CCA 1531	VF	125	94
169.		1/2 Tram	CCA 1533	VF	125	110
170.		Kardez	CCA 1543	VF+	75	55
171.		Kardez	CCA 1543	VF+	75	88
172.		Kardez	CCA 1572	-VF	75	—
173.		Kardez	CCA 1574	VF	75	99
174.	Hetoum II	Billon	CCA 1577	VF	125	110
175.		Billon	CCA 1578	VF	125	83
176.		Billon	CCA 1588	VF	125	149
177.		Kardez	CCA 1615	VF+	50	94
178.		3 Kardezzes	CCA 1615,79	F to VF	75	71
179.		Kardez	CCA 1636	VF	50	44
180.		2 Kardezzes	CCA 1634V,7	F	50	—
181.	Smpad	Coronation Tram	CCA 1653a	VF+	500	330
182.		Tram	CCA 1669	VF+	400	275
183.		Kardez	CCA1682a	-VF	50	44
184.	Gosdantin I	Tram	CCA 1727b	VF+	2500	2,008
185.		Kardez	CCA 1728/32	VF+	250	363
186.	Levon III	Takvorin	CCA 1734	VF+	75	110
187.		Takvorin	CCA 1734a/34	VF+	75	44
188.		3 Takvorins	CCA 1763,90,91	VF	150	66
189.		Kardez	CCA 1808	-VF	50	28
190.		Kardez	CCA 1816V	VF	100	71
191.		3 Kardezzes	CCA 1817a, 1822/21,1836	-F to F	75	—
192.	Oshin	Coronation tram	CCA 1845V	EF	200	220
193.		Coronation tram	CCA 1847	EF	200	181
194.		Takvorin	CCA 1854	VF	50	83
195.		Takvorin	CCA 1861	VF+	75	83
196.		3 Poghs	CCA 1943, 1944aV,5aV	F to VF	75	50
197.		2 Takv o/s Arbie	CCA 1946	—	50	83

No.	Ruler	Coin	Reference	Grade	US\$ Est.	US\$ Sold
198.	Levon IV	Takvorin	CCA 1954	VF+	50	33
199.		Takvorin	CCA 1965	VF	50	46
200.		3 Takvorins	CCA 1954V, 1961,1967	F to VF	75	55
201.		3 Takvorins	CCA 1968, 1969, 1990	F to VF	75	29
202.		Large pogh	CCA 2000V	VF	75	39
203.		Large pogh	CCA 2003V	VF	75	94
204.		Large pogh	CCA 2003V	VF	75	71
205.		3 Poghs	CCA 2011 2020,2023V	—	75	24
206.		Takv. o/s Arabic	CCA2027	VF	75	—
207.		Takv. o/s Arabic	CCA 2028	VF	75	24
208.		Takv. o/s Arabic	CCA 2028	VF	75	—
209.	Guy	Takvorin	CCA 2032	VF	100	44
210.		Takvorin	CCA 2032a	VF	100	66
211.		Takvorin	CCA 2033	VF	100	44
212.		Takvorin	CCA 2034	VF	100	121
213.		Takvorin	CCA 2034	VF	100	—
214.		Takvorin	CCA 2034V	VF	100	66
215.		Takvorin	CCA 2037	VF	100	83
216.	Gosdantin III	Takv. lion to left	CCA 2048	VF	150	110
217.		Takvorin	CCA 2063	VF	50	61
218.		5 Takvorins	CCA 2060 (3)2065V,6V	-VF	100	66
219.		Pogh	CCA 2122	-VF	100	116
220.		Pogh	CCA 2123	-VF	100	77
221.	Levon the Usurper	Takvorin	CCA 2130	VF	125	138
222.		Takvorin	CCA 2133	VF	125	83
223.		Takvorin	CCA 2137	VF	125	55
224.		2 Takvorins	CCA 2133,44	VF	175	66
225.		Pogh	CCA 2168a	F	125	83
226.	Gosdantin IV	Takvorin	CCA 2177	VF	50	—
227.		Takvorin	CCA 2194	VF	50	93
228.		3 Takvorins	CCA 2181, 2193,2206V	VF	75	33
229.		Pogh w/takv die	CCA 2221	VF	50	61
230.	Levon V	Billon	CCA 2239	VF	125	—
231.		Billon	CCA 2239	VF	125	138
232.		Pogh	CCA 2242	-VF	50	77
233.	Post Roupenian	Pogh	—	F to VF	100	94
234.		Pogh	CCA 2249	F	100	66

### ՎԼԱՍԻԿԱԼ ՆԻՄԻՄԱՏԻԿ ԳՐՈՒՊԻ ՀԱՅԿԱԿԱՆ ԴՐԱՄՆԵՐՈՒ ԱՃՈՒՐԴԸ

[Ամփոփում]

Հայկական դրամներու ժողովածու մը աճուրդի դրուեցաւ 29 Սեպտեմբեր 1993 թ., Քուարիվալ, Փենսիլվանիոյ մէջ, Վասիկալ Նիմիսմատիկ Գրուպ Բնագիտական դրամներու վաճառքի ընկերութեան կողմէ: Հայկական դրամներու բաժինը կը պարունակէր 234 կտմեր (444 կտոր դրամ): Ծովիքի թագաւորութիւն (2), Արտաշէսեան Բարսութիւն (31), Կոմմագենիի Բայանական թագաւորութիւն (3), Հաւաստանի վերաբերեալ Բոմբէական դրամներ (7), Նաբաթէա (1), Իւլամական դրամներ կտորոած պատմական Հայաստանի դրամաձախարհներուն մէջ (201), Ռուրիքեան Բարսութիւն (199): Հայկական Բարսութեանց կողմէ կտրուած դրամներու ընդհանուր Բաշին է 235 կտոր դրամ:

Ե. Թ. ՆԵՐՍԷՆՅԱՆ



## ARMENIAN NUMISMATIC LITERATURE

- 1 APELIAN, George. Bats' namak bolor haykakan kazmakerput'iwannerun ew metsaharust hayerun [An Open Letter to All Armenian Organizations and Wealthy Armenians] - *Բաց նամակ բոլոր հայ կազմակերպություններուն և մեծահարուստ հայերուն, գրեց՝ Ճորճ Աբելյան*. Nor Gyank, Vol. XV (5 August 1993), No. 34, p. 47. In Armenian.

The author urges wealthy Armenians to purchase the Asbed Donabedian coin collection from the Spink auction, and save it from dispersal. YTN

Հեղինակը կոչ կ'ուղղէ հայութեան, որ Ասպետ Տոնապետեանի դրամները Սփինք ընկերութեան առուղէն գնեն ու ցիր ու ցան ըլլալէ փրկեն ԵԹՆ

- 2 KARAPETIAN. M. Kilikiayi Kostandin arajin t'agawori norahayt dramnere [The Newly Discovered Coins of King Gosdantin I of Cilician Armenia] - *Կիլիկիայի հոստանդին առաջին թագավորի նորահայտ դրամները, գրեց՝ Մ. Կարապետյան*. Hayastani hanrapetut'yunum 1989-1990 t't'. dashdayin hnagittakan ashkhatank'neri ardyunk'nerin nvrvats gitakan nstashrjan, papers read in May 1991. Yerevan: Academy of Sciences of Armenia and Institute of Archaeology and Ethnography, 1991, pp. 129-130. In Armenian.

Unpublished variants of King Gosdantin I silver and copper coins are included in the State Museum of Armenia, USSR State Museum in Moscow, and the private collection of Grigor Minassian. Gosdantin also has gold coins. All his coins are of high quality and very attractive. YTN

Հոստանդին Ա թագաւորի արծաթեայ և պղնձեայ դրամներու անտիպ տարբերակները կը գտնուին Հայաստանի Պատմութեան Պետական թանգարանը, Մոսկուայի ԽՍՀՄ թանգարանը և Գրիգոր Մինասեանի անձնական հաւաքածոն: Կոստանդին ունի նաև ոսկեայ դրամներ իր դրամները բարձրորակ ու գեղեցիկ են ԵԹՆ

- 3 KROH, Dennis. Coins of the Minor Hellenistic Kingdoms, by Dennis Kroh. Celator, Vol. 7 (August 1993), No. 8, pp. 44-47.

Regarding ancient coin reference books on "Kingdom of Armenia," Kroh assigns 5 stars (the top rating) to Paul Z. Bedoukian, *Coinage of the Artaxiads of Armenia*, and 3 stars to David R. Sear, *Greek Coins and Their Values*, 2nd Revised Edition, Vol. 2. YTN

Հին դրամներու բաժնի ներքև, «Հայաստանի թագաւորութեան» մասին, Կրոհ կու տայ 5 աստղ (ամենաբարձր աստիճանը) Զարեհ Պ. Պետկեանի, Ատաշեսեան Քարստրոյեան դրամները գիրքին, և 3 աստղ Դաւիթ Բ. Սիրի *Greek Coins and Their Values* գիրքի, երկրորդ հրատարակութեան Բ հատորին: ԵԹՆ

- 4 MOUSHEGHIAN, Kh. A. Syunik'i dramakan gandzi artiv [On the occasion of Coin Hoard of Siwniq] - *Սյունիքի դրամական գանձի առթիվ, գրեց՝ Ռ. Ա. Մուշեղյան*. Hayastani hanrapetut'yunum 1989-1990 t't'. dashdayin hnagitakan ashkhatank'neri ardyunk'nerin nvrvats gitakan nstashrjan, papers read in May 1991. Yerevan: Academy of Sciences of Armenia and Institute of Archaeology and Ethnography, 1991, pp. 109-111. In Armenian.

See *Armenian Numismatic Journal*, Ser. I, Vol. XVIII (1992), No. 2, p. 42, abstract 5.

- 5 SARKISSIAN, Henry V. Iranahay medalagorts Zaven Gharakhaniane [Iranian Armenian Medallist Zaven Gharakhanian] - *Իրանահայ մեդալագործ Զաւէն Ղարախանեանը, գրեց՝ Հենրի Սարգսեան*. Altk, (1990), No. 75 (15754), pp. 3-4, illus. In Armenian.

Medals designed by Zaven Gharakhanian are described. 1. 50th anniversary of Altk newspaper, silver and gold-plated copper, 30 mm (1981); Republic of Armenia (1918), silver, 30 mm (1985); 3. 150th anniversary of Raffi, silver and gold, 35 mm; 4. 100th anniversary of Armenian Revolutionary Federation (1990); 5. Ararat organization (1990). YTN

Նկարագրված են Զաւէն Ղարախանեանի կերտած մեդալիները: 1. Ալիք թերթի 60-ամեակ, արծաթէ և ոսկեջրուած պղինձէ, 30 մմ (1981), 2. Հայաստանի Հանրապետութիւն (1918), արծաթէ, 30 մմ (1985), 3. Բաֆֆի 150-ամեակ, արծաթէ և ոսկիէ, 4. Հայ Յեղափոխական Դաշնակցութեան 100-ամեակ (1990), Արարատ կազմակերպութիւն (1990):

- 6 SARKISSIAN, Henry V. Most cherez veka [Bridge Over One Century] - Мост через века, автор Г. В. Саркисян. *Druzhba*, (October 1990-91), No. 2, p. 4. In Russian. The State Museum of Armenian History and its activities are presented. The curator notes that the rich numismatic collection includes coins as old as Xerxes (third century B.C.) and Artavasdes IV (first century A.D.) YTN

Ներկայացուած է Հայաստանի Պատմութեան Պետական Թանգարանը ու իր գործունէութիւնները Վարդիը կը նշէ թէ զրամագիտական հարուստ ժողովածուն կը պարունակէ հին զրամներ նման Քսերքսի (Ք դար Ն.Ք.) և Արտավազը Դ-ի (Յ.Ք. Ա դար):

- 7 SARKISSIAN, Henry V. Trayanosi dramnere ev Hayastane [The Coins of Trajan and Armenia] - Տրայանոսի զրամները եւ Հայաստան, գրեթէ՝ Հ. Վ. Սարգսյան. *Hayastani hanrapetut'yunum 1989-1990 t't.* dashdayin hnagitakan ashkhatank'neri ardayunik'nerin noivnals giitakin nslaslujjan, paper's read in May 1991. Yerevan: Academy of Sciences of Armenia and Institute of Archaeology and Ethnography, 1991, pp. 98-100. In Armenian.

On the north-east side of the village of Garni, an ancient (second century B.C.) tomb was found to contain, among other objects, a gold aureus of the Roman emperor Trajan. Trajan's portrait is on the obverse, while the reverse shows the second portrait of Faustina. The weight of this unusual coin is 6.74 grams, the diameter 19 mm. YTN

Գառնի գիւղի հիւսիս-արեւմուտքը անտիկ դամբարանէ մը (Ք դ.), այլ առարկաներու հետ, յայտնաբերուած է Տրայանոսի ոսկեայ աուրեուսը: Երեսն Տրայանոսի դիմաքանդակի պատկերն է և նորայայտ ոսկեայ զրամի ետին, զորչմուած Զաուստինայի աուրեուսին երկրորդ երեսի պատկերը: Քաշը 6.74 գրամ է, տրամագիծը՝ 19 մմ:

- 8 SARKISSIAN, Henry V. Zolotyie bizantijskie monety v denezhnom obrashchenii Armenii [The Circulation of Byzantine Coins in Armenia] - Золотые византийские монеты в денежном обращении Армении, автор Г. В. Саркисян. *XVIIIth International Congress of Byzantine Studies, Summaries of Communications*. Moscow: 1991, Vol. II, pp. 987-988. In Russian.

The author describes how Byzantine coins were discovered in Armenia and reported to the State Museum of Armenian History. To this group belongs the nearly 4000 Byzantine gold coins accumulated in the Museum. The oldest coin is given to Emperor Leo I (454-474), and the latest, to Emperor Romanus IV (1067-1071). YTN

Հեղինակը կը նկարագրէ թէ ինչպէս բիզանդական զրամներ գտնուած են Հայաստանի մէջ ու տեղեկագրուած Հայաստանի Պատմութեան Պետական Թանգարանին: Այս խումբին կը պատկանին ժամանորայէ 4000 բիզանդական ոսկիէ զրամները, որոնք հաւաքուած են Թանգարանին մէջ: Վաղագոյն զրամը արուած է Լեոն Ա կայսեր (454-474), ամենաուշը՝ Թումանոս Դ կայսեր (1067-1071):

- 9 SARYAN, Levon A. Armenia on the Threshold of Independence: Commemorative Coins Reflect Past Heritage, Present Difficulties, by Leon A. Saryan. *NI Bulletin*, Vol. XXVIII (December 1993), No. 12, p. 281-289, illus..

See *Armenian Numismatic Journal*, Ser. I, Vol. XIX (1993), No. 4, p. 88, abstract 14.

- 10 SARYAN, Levon A. Armenia: 1991-93 Market Price Survey Explores Specialty Difficult to Update in Catalog, by L. A. Saryan. *World Coin News*, Vol. XX (6 December 1993), No. 25, pp. 22-23.

Saryan surveys *World Coin News* weekly paper from 1991 to 1993 for the prices of Armenian coins. In a tabulated format he gives the prices for 22 different coin types issued by 11 Artaxiad and Roubenian Armenian kings. YTN

Սարեան կը քննէ *World Coin News* շաբաթաթերթը 1991-էն մինչև 1993 հայկական զրամներու արժեքներուն համար Աղիւսակաձև կուտայ 11 Արտաշէսեան ու Բուրջնեան հայ Թագաւորներու կողմէ թողարկուած 22 տարբեր զրամներու արժեքները:

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## Bulletin No. 16 Supplement C

1994

### Bank Notes of Republic of Armenia (1993)

211. Includes 10, 25, 50, 100, 200 drams, UNC, 5 pieces.....	032.00
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### Postage stamps of Republic of Armenia (1992)

212. AT&T, international telecommunication, each stamp.....	005.50
213. One set of 3 stamps, Mt. Ararat and Armenian flag, includes 0.20, 2.00, 5.00 units.....	008.50
214. Same as above, but one full sheet, contains 20 sets of each 3 denominations.....	115.00
215. First day of cancellation (FDC), includes stamps listed above.....	010.00
216. Same as above, but one full sheet, contains 15 sets of each 4 denominations .....	125.00
217. First day of cancellation (FDC), includes 4 stamps listed above.....	011.25
218. Souvenir sheet, commemoration of the 175th anniversary of the birth of the famous Armenian artist Hovhannes Aivazovsky, 7.00 units (post paid).....	005.75

### Postage stamps of Republic of Armenia (1993)

219. Culture issue (4 stamps), 0.40, 0.80, 3.60, 5.00 units (post paid).....	05.50
220. FDC, Culture issue (4 stamps), 0.40, 0.80, 3.60, 5.00 units, (post paid).....	08.25
221. David of Sassoun souvenir sheet, 12.00 units (post paid).....	09.50
222. Landscapes issue (5 stamps), 0.40, 0.80, 3.60, 5.00, 12.00 units (post paid).....	05.50
223. FDC, Landscapes issue (5 stamps), 0.40, 0.80, 3.60, 5.00, 12.00 units (post paid).....	08.25
224. Philatelic exhibition issue (1 stamp), no unit printed on stamp (post paid).....	02.25
225. FDC, Philatelic exhibition issue (1 stamp), no unit printed on stamp (post paid).....	06.75
226. Philatelic exhibition issue, Souvenir sheet (6 stamps), no unit printed on stamp (post paid).....	09.50
227. Definitive issue (3 stamps), 1.00, 3.00, 20.00 units (post paid).....	02.25

### Postage stamps of Republic of Mountainous Karabagh (1993)

228. Medium size booklet: 1 set of stamps, FDC, 1 perforated and 1 imperf souvenir sheet.....	60.00
229. Full size booklet: 1 set of stamps, FDC, 1 perf and 1 imperf souvenir sht, 1 set sheetlet of 8 stamps .....	150.00
230. 1 sheet set of stamps .....	325.00
231. 1 perforated souvenir sheet (postpaid).....	10.00
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JOURNAL

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Series I

Vol. XX, No. 3

September 1994

## EDITORIAL

### CHEMICAL ANALYSIS AND ARMENIAN COINS

Modern scientific methods of chemical analysis help scholars non-destructively to determine the composition of an alloy. Numismatists, metallurgists, and chemists have pooled their talents to subject ancient coins to various types of chemical analyses.

Metallurgical and chemical investigation is a modern technical method, developed during the past three decades, to study the alloy of coins. Prior to this, the best non destructive approach was the specific gravity method invented two thousand years ago by Archimedes. Using the specific gravity procedure, Armenian numismatists were able to provide fairly accurate data on the fineness of silver coins. However, the specific gravity method cannot provide the alloy composition of a coin.

When Dr. Paul Z. Bedoukian composed his classic book, *Coinage of Cilician Armenia*, the present high technology methods of analyzing silver and copper were not available. Using the specific gravity method, in spite of its shortcomings, Bedoukian determined the fineness of more than two hundred silver coins of Roupenian kings and published them in his book. Furthermore, he solved some complex numismatic problems, i.e., differentiated between the takvorins (debased silver) of Gosdantin III and Gosdantin IV.

In the Sibilian Centennial Memorial volume (ANJ IV—1978) Dr. D. M. Metcalf pioneered a paper on the study of the alloy of Armenian silver coins. Here the metallurgical composition of the silver trams of kings Levon I and Hetoum I of Cilician Armenia were subjected to chemical analyses by using a low-powered focusing spectrometer.

In this issue of *Armenian Numismatic Journal* three papers are offered to our readers where Armenian coins and artifacts, discovered with a hoard of Hetoum-Zabel trams, have been extensively subjected to chemical analyses by using SEM-EDS (scanning electron microscopy with energy dispersive X-ray spectrometer). This method of study, obviously, is more scientific than examining a coin by scratching its edge.

It is our earnest desire that what has been accomplished by Dr. P. Z. Bedoukian and Dr. D. Metcalf, and the effort undertaken to perform the tests for the preparation of the papers presented in this issue of *Armenian Numismatic Journal*, will be only the initial steps for Armenian numismatics to adopt these type of tests and analyze Armenian coins. During the past one hundred fifty years the Armenian numismatics has made great strides, but compared to what can be accomplished between now and another one and a half century from now, one humbly can admit that only the surface of Armenian numismatics has been scratched yet.

Y. T. Nercessian

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**Editor's Note:** In reference to the article on "A Hoard of «Silver» Coins of Tigranes II," coin No. 2 should be die 3; Nos. 3, 3a, 4 should be die 5; Nos. 5, 6 should be die 7.

## LETTERS

May I suggest to the Society a way of increasing membership. It would be a good idea to hand out membership applications after church on Sundays and at church functions. Also, [we should] talk about and get members of other coin clubs interested in the Society.

Manuel Panossian  
Newtown Square, PA

Приступив к работе после отпуска, получил Ваше любезное письмо и отписки Ваших очень интересных работ. Я очень благодарен Вам за добрые отношения и память.

I. Dobrovolski  
Hermitage Museum, St. Petersburg

Readers of *Armenian Numismatic Journal* owe you a debt of gratitude for the excellent coverage of Armenian coin auctions you have provided over the years. With this information conveniently summarized on these pages, collectors can make informed decisions about prospective coin purchases and auction strategy.

Those who are puzzled by the outcome of these sales are not alone. What a coin brings at auction indicates what the final bidder had to pay to obtain it, but this may have little relation to its actual value. Auctions have a dynamic of their own which an experienced auctioneer will exploit to maximize the total yield.

Several factors which can influence the outcome of an auction as a whole or any individual lot recently noted by writer David Kenny in a letter to *Numismatic News* (April 12, 1994, p. 6):

1. Who and how many bidders participate in the auction and their knowledge.
2. Whether the bidders are collectors (buying for their personal collections) or dealers (buying for resale).
3. How much money the bidders have to spend, and the financial ability of competitors for any particular lot. Participation of wealthy bidders invariably inflates the end result.
4. How well the sale (or any particular lot) has been promoted beforehand. Good publicity in connection with a major numismatic show can enhance the final outcome.
5. Political and financial news immediately preceding the sale.
6. The description of the lot (including quality of the photograph, accuracy of the attribution, rarity, condition, and estimated price).
7. The position of the lot (near the beginning can be good or bad depending on the sale).
8. The coin's pedigree of previous owners, including whether the coin has been previously advertised, published, or exhibited. Famous previous owners tend to bring higher prices.
9. The number and quality of similar competing pieces in the same or recent auctions.
10. Whether the coin has been placed in an appropriate sale for its type, rarity, and value.

Collectors may find it worthwhile to contemplate the role which these factors might play next time they participate in an auction sale.

L. A. Saryan  
Greenfield, WI

**Editor's Note:** As long as there are two collectors who want the same coin, they make the market and establish a new price strata. The bottom line is the same, supply and demand.

## A MICROCHEMICAL INVESTIGATION OF SUSPECTED PLATING ON THIRTEENTH-CENTURY ARMENIAN SILVER TRAMS

Scientific progress has placed several new analytical tools at the disposal of numismatists and archaeologists, which make it possible to study in great detail the chemical composition of ancient coins<sup>1</sup> and other types of artifacts.<sup>2</sup> Such studies can shed new light on early technologies, cultural interrelations, and historic and economic events. Often, modern instrumentation makes it possible to analyze objects for elemental composition in a completely non-destructive fashion. Despite the virtually limitless potential of such techniques, only a handful of reports examining Armenian artifacts have been published.<sup>3</sup>

Over the years, a few apparently genuine thirteenth-century Armenian silver coins have been found whose external appearance strongly suggests that they are plated; i.e., composed of an outer layer of silver with an interior core of base metal, possibly copper. Metallurgical confirmation of the existence of such silver-plated Armenian coins would be noteworthy, since no such coins were reported by Dr. Paul Z. Bedoukian in his landmark 1962 study on medieval Cilician Armenian coinage,<sup>4</sup> nor have any been published subsequently.<sup>5</sup>

This study reports the results of microchemical analysis of five thirteenth-century Armenian silver trams. Through the courtesy of Nebraska numismatist Robert Kutcher, we were generously permitted to study one apparently plated coin of Hetoum I, together with a genuine (control) coin of the same type of apparently good silver originating from the same hoard. Three contemporaneous Armenian silver coins from the author's collection (normal trams of Levon I and Hetoum I, and another apparently plated tram of Hetoum I) were included in the study. All coins were analyzed non-destructively using scanning electron microscopy combined with elemental analysis using energy dispersive X-ray spectrometry (SEM-EDS). Subsequently, a small wedge from each of Kutcher's two coins was removed, embedded in plastic, and examined along the freshly exposed interior surface using SEM-EDS and microscopic metallography to characterize the interior metallic composition and alloy structure of these coins.

<sup>1</sup> See, for example, the two volumes published by the Royal Numismatic Society: E. T. Hall and D. M. Metcalf, eds., *Methods of Chemical and Metallurgical Investigation of Ancient Coinage* (London, 1972) and D. M. Metcalf and W. A. Oddy, eds., *Metallurgy in Numismatics*, Vol. I (London, 1980).

<sup>2</sup> See, for example, Ralph O. Allen, ed., *Archaeological Chemistry IV* (Washington, 1989), the fourth in a series of symposium proceedings describing the application of modern techniques to a variety of archaeological questions.

<sup>3</sup> D. M. Metcalf, "The Alloy of the Thirteenth-Century Silver Coinage of Cilician Armenia," *Armenian Numismatic Journal*, Ser. I, Vol. IV (1978), pp. 57-66; L. A. Saryan, "Chemical Composition of Armenian Coins," *Armenian Numismatic Journal*, Ser. I, Vol. XII (September 1986), No. 3, pp. 22-29; L. A. Saryan, "Unravelling the Colors of the Past," *Ararat*, Vol. XXVI (Summer 1985), No. 3 (103), pp. 62-63; Mary V. Orna and Thomas F. Mathews, "Uncovering the Secrets of Medieval Artists," *Analytical Chemistry*, Vol. LX, No. 1, (1988), pp. 47A ff.

<sup>4</sup> Paul Z. Bedoukian, *Coinage of Cilician Armenia* (New York, 1962).

<sup>5</sup> In Bedoukian's revised edition of *Coinage of Cilician Armenia* (Danbury, CT, 1979), pp. xxxia-xxxie, a review of publications on Armenian numismatics before 1962 and 1979 reveals no published literature on plated coins; neither does a review of the index for volumes I through XV of *Armenian Numismatic Journal*.

### Historical background

The reigns of King Levon I (1198-1219) and King Hetoum I (1226-1270) represent the political and economic apogee of Cilician Armenia.<sup>6</sup> In the year 1080 AD, an Armenian barony was established in Cilicia (located in south central Asia Minor) by Levon's ancestor Roupen I. During the last decade of the twelfth century, through Levon's determined effort, the barony was transformed into a kingdom. Taking advantage of his favorable geographical position on the Mediterranean seacoast, as well as his political and military strength, Levon vigorously promoted commerce between southern Europe and Asia. Cilicia became the meeting point of caravans from the East and maritime traders from Venice, Genoa, and other western Mediterranean cities. Armenia imposed duties on imported goods and commercial transactions. The revenues helped to strengthen the country against foes, such as the Seljuq Turks who inhabited central Asia Minor, and Mamluks of Egypt. The Armenians provided aid to the Crusaders and, by their presence as a strong bulwark on the northern frontier, shielded the Latin kingdoms of the Levant from Seljuq attack. Levon's successor, Hetoum I, expanded Armenia's international position by pursuing a far-sighted alliance with the Mongols. Hetoum and his emissaries nearly succeeded in converting the Mongols to Christianity. With Mongol aid, Hetoum was able to neutralize the Seljuq threat, and for several years also held the Mamluks at arm's length. In the year 1266, while the Armenian king was away on a mission to the Mongols, the Crusader states and Armenia were attacked and pillaged by a large Mamluk army. As Bedoukian so eloquently puts it, this "was a disaster from which the Armenians never fully recovered."<sup>7</sup>

Levon understood that political and economic independence were inseparable. Accordingly, one of his first acts as king was to reorganize and expand the Armenian mint. Previously, the mint had struck only rare copper coins, but after Levon's coronation an extensive issue of silver coins in several designs and denominations poured forth.<sup>8</sup> Using specific gravity measurements, Bedoukian demonstrated that the metallurgical quality of the silver coinage of both Levon and Hetoum adhered to a high standard,<sup>9</sup> a fact which was subsequently confirmed by Metcalf using microchemical analysis.<sup>10</sup> The standard silver denomination was the tram, which weighed approximately 2.7 to 3.1 grams, measured 20-23 millimeters in diameter, and contained between 91 and 95 percent silver. Coins were hammer-struck between engraved bronze dies, of which several were prepared for each king. Trams were equivalent to the standard dirham of the Arabs and far superior to the tiny debased deniers used by the Crusaders. Consequently, they were readily accepted in commercial transactions. Heretofore, there has been no published evidence that any reduction of weight or silver fineness took place during the reigns of Levon and Hetoum, despite severe circumstances at the end of Hetoum's reign when political conditions might have compelled such a measure.

Coins of the Cilician Armenian rulers are often unearthed in huge hoards which eventually reach the international numismatic market, where they find avid collectors. After several centuries of burial, these coins may show the effects of long exposure to soil and moisture, such as corrosion, pitting, discoloration, and encrustation with surface deposits. To make them more attractive to collectors, coins are sometimes cleaned of surface dirt and deposits to reveal a lustrous metallic surface. Over the years,

<sup>6</sup> See Bedoukian, *Coinage of Cilician Armenia* (1979), pp. 9-12 and *passim*; also Sirarpie Der Nersessian, "The Kingdom of Cilician Armenia" in Kenneth M. Setton, eds., *A History of the Crusades*, Vol. II (Philadelphia, 1962), pp. 630-659.

<sup>7</sup> Bedoukian (1962), p. 11.

<sup>8</sup> Bedoukian (1962), pp. 76-82 and *passim*.

<sup>9</sup> Bedoukian (1962), pp. 108-112 and *passim*.

<sup>10</sup> Metcalf (1978) *op. cit.*

perhaps as many as 50,000 medieval Armenian silver coins have found their way into public and private collections.

### The coins

In 1986, Nebraska numismatist Robert Kutcher generously suggested and offered for chemical analysis two trams originally derived from a mixed hoard of several hundred medieval Armenian coins.<sup>11</sup> One of these was a silver tram of Hetoum I which, although tarnished, appeared to be struck from good silver; the other was a similar Hetoum I tram which appeared upon visual examination to have been plated: grayish outer layer (silver or perhaps tin) which in places had fallen away, revealing a black layer (suspected to be oxidized copper or mercury) underneath, and a copper core. A few similar pieces were found by Kutcher among the genuine coins in his hoard. Perhaps these coins had been struck on flans of base metal, probably copper, and coated with silver, during a period of distress, or alternatively the coins were of good silver but had suffered unusual corrosion as a consequence of burial. Confirmation of the existence of authentic plated medieval Armenian coins would be an important new discovery.

Visual examination of Kutcher's coins showed that each had developed a blue-violet tarnish over centuries of storage. Initially, the coins were studied as received, with no cleaning or alteration whatsoever. No attempt was made to remove surface deposits. To provide a meaningful basis for comparison, three contemporaneous coins from the author's collection (obtained from other sources) were included. Two were cleaned silver trams of Levon I and Hetoum I as purchased, and the third was a tram of Hetoum I with superficial pitting that resembled corroded areas on Kutcher's "plated" coin.

The coins are described in detail below (Plate VII):

**Coin 1.** Hetoum I, standard silver tram from the Kutcher collection No. 6, Bedoukian classification 1215 variant (star under lion), ... ՂՈԹԻ ՆՆ ԱՅ/ՀԵԹՈՒՄ ԹԱԳԱՒՈՐ Հ, 3.11 g., 22 mm diameter, with strong blue to purple tarnish covering both surfaces. This coin is sometimes referred to herein as the "control" coin. SEM-EDS was used to study two selected areas on the reverse of this coin: one in the field above the lion's flank, and another on the flank surface, a high point where surface dirt had been worn off. The coin was later sectioned for analysis of interior composition and metallography.

**Coin 2.** Hetoum I, standard silver tram from the Kutcher collection No. 511, Bedoukian 1224 (star under lion), ՎԱՐՈՂՈ ԹԻՆՆ ԱՅ/ՀԵԹՈՒՄ Թ...Ր ՀԱ, 2.57 g., 22 mm diameter, with a strong blue to purple tarnish on both faces. This piece is sometimes referred to as the "plated" coin. This coin is apparently plated with several areas on both surfaces showing metal broken away revealing a black grainy surface beneath. Three reverse areas on this coin were selected for study: an area on the lion's flank where the metal was intact, and two separate areas near the edge where the "plating" had worn away revealing a black grainy layer. This coin was also sectioned for determination of interior composition and metallography.

**Coin 3.** Levon I, standard silver tram, Bedoukian 557 similar, ԼԵՒՆ ԹԱԳԱՒՈՐ ՀԱՅՈՑ/ՎԱՐՈՂՈՒԹԵՆ ԱՍՏՈ-ՇՈՑ, 2.787 g., 22 mm diameter, purchased in 1988 with clean surfaces, LS collection. A single pinhead size area in the field to the left of the king's head was selected for surface analysis using SEM-EDS.

**Coin 4.** Hetoum I, standard silver tram, Bedoukian 1261, ՎԱՐՈՂՈՒԹԻՆ ԱՅ/ՀԵԹՈՒՄ ԹԱԳԱՒՈՐ ՀՅ, 2.90 g., 22 mm diameter, purchased in 1986 with clean surfaces, LS collection. One area was selected for SEM-EDS surface analysis, a pinhead size spot in the reverse inscription circle where the inscription is flat.

<sup>11</sup> Robert R. Kutcher, private communications to L. A. Saryan, dated July 30, 1986 and August 21, 1986.

**Coin 5.** Hetoum I, standard silver tram, Bedoukian 993 variety, ԿԱՐՈՂՈՒԹԻՆՆ ԱՅ Է/ՀԵԹՈՒՄ ԹԱԳԱԽԻՐ ՀԱ, 3.032 g, 22 mm diameter, purchased in 1988, LS collection. This coin has a grayish-black patina in the fields and numerous small pits, especially on the obverse. In several places the pitting appears to penetrate a plated surface coating. Three areas on the obverse were selected for SEM-EDS study: an area free of pitting between the king and queen, an area near the first except within a pit, and an area on the queen's gown within a larger pit.

#### Surface analysis using SEM-EDS

It was decided that all coins at hand should be studied using a completely non-destructive methodology, followed later by destructive analysis as necessary to confirm and extend the findings. Accordingly, each coin was first analyzed for surface chemical composition by SEM-EDS using no prior cleaning or surface preparation whatsoever. Later, coins 1 and 2 were sectioned and a small piece of each was embedded in plastic, enabling the coin to be examined for interior alloy composition by the same methodology and metallographically for alloy structure.

SEM-EDS is a totally non-destructive analytical method used by metallurgists to study the chemical composition and behavior of metals.<sup>12</sup> This procedure can detect and quantify elements (above atomic number 10) which are present at a concentration of approximately 0.1% or greater. The maximum depth of X-ray penetration in a metallic alloy of this type would be about 1-2 microns (0.001-0.002 millimeters). The purpose of the initial study was to ascertain quantitatively which elements were present and any unusual chemical differences between suspect and authentic coins.

SEM-EDS is commonly used in metallurgical investigations. The analyses were performed at Midwest Research Technologies (now Aspen Consulting, Inc.) using a JEOL JSM 35C (Japan Electron Optics Laboratory USA, Peabody, MA) scanning electron microscope equipped with a Noran 5502 (Northern Scientific, Middleton, WI) energy dispersive X-ray detector. The aperture of the microscope vacuum chamber is large enough to admit objects measuring up to about 2 inches in diameter. No preliminary preparation or mounting of the sample was necessary for this phase of the study, nor are the coins altered in any way by the procedure. The coins are simply removed from their storage envelopes, placed on a sample holder and inserted into the instrument.

In the SEM, an image of the coin is first generated. The coin is positioned in the target area of a vacuum chamber and bombarded with a beam of electrons generated within the instrument. A series of electromagnetic lenses focuses this primary beam to a fine point on the surface of the sample. This spot diameter can be varied; for high resolution imaging it is typically less than 2 nanometers. The spot is moved across the sample surface by means of electromagnetic scanning coils. By rastering this beam back and forth, an area of the sample may be surveyed.

An image of the coin is formed by collecting low energy electrons generated by the collision of the primary electron beam with the sample. These detected electrons are processed into a signal which is sent to a cathode ray tube (CRT) display system. The raster of the beam is synchronized with the raster of the CRT system, thereby producing a high definition topographical image of the coin with all its niches and abrasions. If desired the image may be printed as a photograph and retained.

<sup>12</sup> A recently published review of the various types of analytic X-ray techniques, with hundreds of references to recent literature covering the theory and practical applications, may be consulted in T. S. Torok and R. Van Grieken, "X-ray Spectrometry," *Analytical Chemistry*, Vol. LXVI (June 15, 1994), No. 12, pp. 186R-206R.



A second result of the collision of the primary electron beam with the sample is the generation of photons of energy in the form of X-rays. These X-rays are generated within the atoms of the material, and their wavelengths and energies will be dependent upon and characteristic of the atom from which they are generated. For example, an X-ray generated from a copper atom will have a different wavelength and energy than an X-ray generated from a silver atom. In an alloy of silver and copper, X-rays of wavelengths and energies characteristic of both silver and copper will be generated in proportion to their relative abundance in the surface of the material being studied. By detecting the X-rays generated and sorting them by their energies, the different elemental constituents of the coin being investigated can be determined. The number of X-rays generated by each element enables the composition of the coin surface to be ascertained. The process is complicated and requires computer processing to achieve accurate results.

The size of the area examined can be controlled by the size of the primary beam raster, thus both the magnification of the image (10X to 100,000X) and the area elementally analyzed can be selected. Thus it is possible to obtain a general surface composition as well as a separate analysis of impurities or inclusions on the surface of the coin. The SEM-EDS method is subject to sampling error resulting from non-homogeneous distribution of the alloy components and irregular surface contamination.

Although SEM-EDS enables one to obtain a fairly accurate surface analysis up to a depth of 1 to 2 microns, it must be remembered that the chemical makeup of the surface may not always reflect the bulk or internal composition of an object. In the case of ancient coins, which may be contaminated with soil or have an oxidized surface which may not be representative of the original intended composition of the coin, care must be taken in the interpretation of the results.

In this case, since a surface phenomenon is under study, surface analysis of this type was considered pertinent to the question being investigated. If the decision is made to sacrifice a coin for destructive analysis, the coin may be cross sectioned to reveal an internal surface free of contamination and corrosion.

### Results of surface analysis

The composition of selected surface areas of each coin is presented in Table I. This data, first of all, confirms the findings of both Metcalf and Bedoukian regarding the fineness of the thirteenth-century Armenian silver coinage alloy. Also, the utility and approximate validity of SEM-EDS measurements is determined on coin surfaces tested "as they come" without any treatment whatsoever. On coins 3 and 4, which were received in cleaned condition, the percentages of silver, copper, lead, and gold fall within the expected range of values for the silver coinage of Levon I and Hetoum I. The same is approximately true for areas on those coins suspected to be false (black grainy region, or within pits). The chemical analysis in these cases shows a slightly decreased proportion of silver, but silver remains the predominant element present with at best only a small increase in the proportion of copper.

It is worth noting that silicon, aluminum, sulfur, chlorine, calcium, and iron are not likely to have been original constituents of the alloy; their presence should be ascribed to exposure to elements of soil and corrosion. Chlorine is probably combined with the silver, while silicon, calcium, and iron are adventitious contaminants originating from burial. The most advanced example of this phenomenon oddly enough, is seen in a recessed area on the field of Kutcher's genuine tram (coin 1), where the proportion of silver compared to the sum of silicon, aluminum, chlorine, calcium, and iron is nearly 1 to 1. This may be explained by the fact that the area tested was in a recessed area that had never been cleaned of surface contaminants.



TABLE I. Non-destructive coin analysis by SEM-EDS (percentage by weight)

Metal	Coin 1		Coin 2			Coin 3	Coin 4	Coin 5		
	Control Area Above Lion Flank	Control Area On Lion Flank	On Lion Flank	Edge Near Scratch Area 1	Edge Near Scratch Area 2	Levon I Left of King's Face	Hetoum I B1261 Rev. Worn	Hetoum I Obv. Area 1	Hetoum I Obv. Area in Pit 1	Hetoum I Obv. Area in Pit 2
Al	2.0	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.3	2.4	0.6
Si	13.6	1.4	1.7	4.8	5.0	0.6	0.7	0.7	7.9	2.6
P	1.2	---	---	0.5	0.3	0.2	0.4	---	---	---
S	1.6	0.6	0.2	0.5	0.7	0.3	0.9	0.1	0.6	0.2
Cl	13.8	6.0	3.3	3.2	3.0	0.8	0.2	1.4	7.4	12.9
Ca	5.4	0.5	0.6	0.1	0.2	---	---	0.4	2.2	1.3
Ti	0.2	---	---	---	---	---	---	0.1	---	0.2
Fe	3.1	0.3	0.1	---	0.2	---	---	0.2	2.6	0.9
Cu	6.8	5.9	1.7	7.2	9.3	1.5	5.1	1.0	1.4	0.8
Ag	46.3	84.0	90.3	81.4	78.5	94.5	90.4	93.7	74.5	79.3
Au	0.6	---	0.6	0.7	1.8	1.0	1.2	1.2	0.9	1.2
Pb	5.5	1.0	1.1	1.4	0.8	1.0	1.0	0.9	---	---

**Cross-Sectional Analysis by SEM-EDS**

In order to examine the possibility that the slightly decreased percentage of silver in the lower layers of the suspect coins was evidence of a copper core, analysis of the coin interior was necessary. Wedge-shaped fragments about 5 mm on a side were removed from the edges of coins 1 and 2 using a special saw. The fragments were embedded in lucite plastic such that a freshly exposed cross-section of each piece could be analyzed, which could reflect the interior chemical makeup of the coin. The results are shown in Table II.

TABLE II. SEM-EDS analyses of cross-sectioned Hetoum I trams (percentage by weight)

Element	Edge	Midway to center	Center
Coin 1. Hetoum I silver tram ("control" coin)			
Ag	92.7	93.0	92.1
Au	1.0	0.8	0.7
Cu	5.3	5.1	5.1
Fe	0.1	nd	nd
Pb	0.9	1.1	2.1
Coin 2. Hetoum I silver tram (suspected plated coin)			
Ag	92.1	92.8	93.1
Au	0.3	0.5	1.0
Cu	6.2	5.8	4.7
Fe	0.2	nd	nd
Pb	1.2	0.9	1.2

The readings were taken along a freshly-exposed section cut through each coin. "Edge" readings were taken near the outer face of the coin; "Midway to center" was taken at a depth approximately 1/4 of the way into the coin; "Center" was taken at a depth of 1/2 of the thickness of the coin.

There is no substantial deviation from the predominant high fineness silver alloy expected for this coinage, nor any great differences between the two coins. Visual

inspection of the freshly exposed surfaces of each coin show no evidence of copper coloration, but rather give the appearance of being good silver. It is clear from the data obtained that both the genuine control coin (coin 1) and the suspect "plated" coin (coin 2) are of high fineness silver alloy characteristic of the genuine trams of Levon I and Hetoum I.

### **Metallographic study of coin cross-sections**

Finally, an investigation of alloy structure was made by metallographic analysis of the cross-sectioned coins 1 and 2. Photographs of the etched cross-section from coin 1 are shown in Figure A and Coin 2 in Figure B magnified 200X (Plate VI). The micrographs indicate that both coins have a thin external layer of corrosion and oxidation. The interiors, however, are a uniform mixture of silver and copper with smaller dark spots indicating tiny areas of internal oxidation and segregation of lead from the main silver-copper alloy. Coin 2 showed more extensive surface corrosion and oxidation; however, no substantial differences between the coins were observed in this test as far as interior alloy structure is concerned.

Metallographic examination did indicate that each coin had a layer of surface corrosion penetrating to a shallow uniform depth. Such corroded areas can give misleading readings in SEM-EDS surface tests, indicating that for very accurate determinations, metallurgic tests should be made on freshly cleaned or freshly exposed metal surfaces.

### **Discussion**

In an erudite research investigation of ancient coin plating and silvering, noted numismatic metallurgist Lawrence Cope points out the importance of confirming chemically the actual materials which compose the coin surface and interiors. "There has evolved, and persisted, ... an extremely vague terminology derived from only a sketchy knowledge of the true nature of either the coatings or the subcutaneous and interior metals or alloys upon which they are to be found. In consequence some misleading speculations have been hazarded concerning the reasons for white-metal coatings on ancient coins and the methods whereby they might have been either deliberately or accidentally produced. A proper metallurgical understanding of the various types of silvering is, however, beginning to emerge ... and numismatic implications can be much more securely based in consequence."<sup>13</sup> Elsewhere, Cope notes specifically that corrosion of silver coins may lead to surface flaking which might closely resemble plating. "A corrosion effect which is not uncommon with silver coins is that of chloride corrosion. Deceptively this corrosion product can closely resemble the metal itself, but a slight purple tinge can lead one to suspect it. It is very brittle, however, and chloridized silver coins usually crumble, or their chloridized surfaces flake away..."<sup>14</sup> This is of particular interest in our case since both coins 1 and 2 had a purple surface coloration as well as the presence of significant amounts of chloride on their surfaces (Table I). In a study of chemical changes suffered by ancient coins, two French scientists note that, in alloys containing lead, such as ancient and medieval silver, "oxidation and corrosion are made easy by the fact that we are dealing with polyphase alloys in which lead is found in isolated grains. The ... grains of lead are more easily attacked."<sup>15</sup>

### **Conclusion**

This study confirms previous studies regarding the high fineness of the silver trams of Levon I and Hetoum I of Cilician Armenia.

<sup>13</sup> Lawrence Cope, "Surface-silvered Ancient Coins" in Hall and Metcalf, *op. cit.*, p. 261.

<sup>14</sup> Lawrence Cope, "The Metallurgical Analysis of Roman Imperial Silver and Aes Coinage," in Hall and Metcalf, *op. cit.*, p. 12.

<sup>15</sup> J. Condamine and M. Picon, "Changes Suffered by Coin in the Course of Time and Influence of These on the Results of Different Methods of Analysis" in Hall and Metcalf, *op. cit.*, p. 53.

Under conditions of soil burial or submersion in water, coins may become corroded on their surfaces. This corrosion often leaves the appearance of a layer of plating on the coin, leading to unwarranted conclusions about the coin's numismatic origin. This study indicates that, despite deceptive appearances of surface plating, at least two such coins (coins 2 and 5) from the reign of Hetoum I were struck from the proper alloy composition. Authentic plated Cilician Armenian silver coins may exist, but their actual structure must be confirmed by metallurgical analysis.

LEVON A. SARYAN, Ph.D.  
ROBERT F. DRAGEN

### ԺԳ. ԴԱՐՈՒ ԵՆԹԱԴԻԵԱԼ-ԱՐԾԱԹԱԶՕԾ ՀԱՅԿԱԿԱՆ ԱՐԾԱԹ ԴՐԱՄՆԵՐՈՒ ՄԱՆՐԱՏԱՐԱԳԻՏԱԿԱՆ ՔՆՆՈՒԹԻՒՆ ՄԸ

Մենք արտոնուեցանք ուսումնասիրելու, ըստ երևոյթի արծաթագոծ դրամ մը, վերադրուած՝ Հեթում Ա-ի և նոյնատիպ երկրորդ արծաթ դրամի մը (control - ղեկավար), որ ըստ երևոյթի լատրակ արծաթ է ու սեռած՝ նոյն դրամագիւտէն: Հեղինակին հաւաքածոյէն երեք ժամանակակից հայկական արծաթ դրամներ ևս քննուեցան (Ասոն Ա-ի և Հեթում Ա-ի մէկական արծաթ դրամներ, երրորդը՝ ըստ երևոյթի Հեթումի արծաթագոծ դրամ մը): Բոլոր դրամները ենթարկուեցան ոչ-կործանարար մակերեսային քիմիական քննութեան գործածելով զինող էլեկտրոն մանրադիտակ միացած հիմնական վերլուծում գործածող ուժ տարածող Բ-ճառագայթի լուսապատկերաչափի, SEM-EDS (scanning electron microscopy with energy dispersive X-ray spectrometry):

Արդիւնքները նախ և առաջ, կը վաւերացնեն Մէթալֆի և Պտուկեանի հասած եզրակացութիւնները նկատմամբ ԺԳ. դարու հայկական արծաթ դրամներուն մետաղաձոյլին արծաթի պարունակութեան ճանդէպ: Ասոնք ևս ցոյց կու տան օգտակարութիւնը և մօտակայ վաւերականութիւնը SEM-EDSի չափառութեան փորձաքննուած «ինչպէս որ է» դրամի մակերեսին վրայ: Ասոն Ա-ի և Հեթում Ա-ի արծաթ դրամներուն համար (դրամներ 3 և 4, ստացուած մաքրուած վիճակով) ակնկալուած արծաթի, պղինձի, կապարի և ոսկիի գումարին առհարիր համեմատութիւնը կ'իյնայ ակնկալուած արժէքներուն սահմանին միջև: Նոյնը նաև ստույգ է թիւ 2 և 5 դրամներուն անվթար մակերեսներուն համար, որ արծաթագոծ ըլլալ կ'երևի:

Թարմօրէն մերկացած դրամին եզերքին մակերեսները նոյնպէս քննուեցան SEM-EDS եղանակով: Յստակ է թէ զոյգ հարազատ ղեկավար դրամը (դրամ 1) և կասկածելի «արծաթագոծ» դրամը (դրամ 2) բարձր որակով արծաթ են, ունենալով համեմատական պղինձ, իւրախառուկ՝ Ասոն Ա-ի և Հեթում Ա-ի արծաթ դրամներուն:

Հողին մէջ թաղուած դրամներ յաճախ կրնան արծաթագոծման երևոյթը ստանալ, յառաջ քշելով անտեղի եզրակացութիւններ դրամի դրամագիտական ծագման մասին: Այս բանասիրութիւնը ցոյց կու տայ (հակառակ մակերեսի երևոյթին), թէ զոնէ երկու այսպիսի դրամներ (դրամ 2 և 5), վերադրուած՝ Հեթում Ա-ի զանակալութեան շրջանին, հատապարտած են մետաղաձոյլի պատշաճ բաղադրութեամբ: Հարազատ արծաթագոծուած կրիլիկեան Հայաստանի արծաթ դրամներ կրնան գոյութիւն ունենալ, բայց իրենց բաղադրութիւնը պէտք է վաւերացուի քիմիական վերլուծումով:

ԼԵՒՈՆ Ա. ՍԱՐԵԱՆ  
ՌՈԲԵՐՏ Ֆ. ԴՐԱԳԵՆ

## COPPER-SURFACED ARMENIAN COINS

### Introduction

Coins which appear to be silver-plated, silver-surfaced, or white-metal surfaced have been noticed several times among the large hoards of the Cilician Armenian kings. The writer has quite a few Cilician Armenian silver coins (takvorins) belonging to the late rulers, where genuine coins appear to be silver-surfaced, perhaps accidentally. No numismatic literature has made mention of such Armenian coins heretofore.

At least eight fourrée or silver-surfaced tetradrachms of Tigranes II have been noted in literature pertaining to ancient Armenian coins.<sup>1</sup> The prevailing opinion is that these fourrée tetradrachms were deliberately silver-surfaced; some have even suggested that they might be contemporary forgeries. Strangely, not even a single fourrée drachm of Tigranes II is reported.<sup>2</sup>

Investigations of silver-surfaced or plated coins have been made by William Campbell,<sup>3</sup> Lawrence H. Cope<sup>4</sup> and Warren Esty.<sup>5</sup> These studies mostly concern processes by which silver-surfaced coins may be made, whereas this study concerns coins which might become electroplated accidentally.

A related question is the existence of copper coins struck with the dies of silver coins.<sup>6</sup> This has been reported several times by Paul Z. Bedoukian. In these cases, it is not known whether all of these coins are copper or copper-plated silver, nor do we know the composition of the core alloy. Until now, these coins have not been subjected to chemical analysis. Often they are examined by scratching the edge.

A few years ago, the writer acquired a very corroded and oxidized copper piece. The unusual appearance of this coin forced some research and investigation. The coin was struck with the dies for silver takvorins of King Levon III (1301-1308) of Cilician Armenia<sup>7</sup> (equestrian obverse, lion reverse). The newly acquired copper piece resembles silver takvorins, not coppers of this king. However, exactly similar dies do not exist in Bedoukian nor in the Levon III takvorin hoards described by Nercessian,<sup>8</sup> or Saryan and Hajinian.<sup>9</sup>

<sup>1</sup> P. Z. Bedoukian, *Coinage of the Artaxiads of Armenia* (London, 1978), pp. 54-55, Nos. 43-48.

<sup>2</sup> *ibid.*, Nos. 49-90.

<sup>3</sup> W. Campbell, *Greek and Roman Plated Coins*, (New York, 1933).

<sup>4</sup> L. H. Cope, "Silver-Surfaced Ancient Coins," *Methods of Chemical and Metallurgical Investigation of Ancient Coinage* (London, 1972), pp. 260-278.

<sup>5</sup> W. Esty, "The Contribution of Surface-Silvering to Silver Content," *Numismatic Chronicle*, Vol. 151 (1991), pp. 226-228.

<sup>6</sup> P. Z. Bedoukian, *Coinage of Cilician Armenia* [henceforth CCA] (New York, 1962), p. 289, No. 1421 (struck with Hetoum-Zabel tram die, 4.60 g.); p. 364, No. 1936 (struck with Oshin takvorin die, 2.58 g.); pp. 406-407, Nos. 2217-2237 (struck with Gosdantin IV takvorin dies, 1.57 to 2.25 g.); *Armenian Numismatic Studies*, Series I, Vol. XVI (1990), pp. 16-19 (struck with Hetoum II billion die, 0.96 g.); *Selected Numismatic Studies* (Los Angeles, 1981), p. 248, No. 117 (struck with Levon the Usurper takvorin die, 1.4 g.).

<sup>7</sup> P. Z. Bedoukian, CCA, pp. 336-353, Nos. 1734-1839.

<sup>8</sup> Y. T. Nercessian, "A Hoard of Levon III Takvorins," *Armenian Numismatic Journal*, Series I, Vol. XVIII (1992), pp. 3-14.

<sup>9</sup> L. A. Saryan and Ch. A. Hajinian, "Another Hoard of Levon III Takvorins," *Armenian Numismatic Journal*, Series I, Vol. XVIII (1992), pp. 15-24.

## Description of the coin

Obv.: The king is on horseback to right, holding the reins with his left hand, and with his right, a cross with one arm which extends over his shoulder. The obverse circular Armenian inscription reads,  
 ԼԵՎՈՆ ԹԱԳԱՌՈՐ ՀԱՅՈՑ (Levon king of the Armenians).

Rev.: The Armenian lion is walking right and facing right with an ornamental cross behind him. Dot under lion. The reverse circular Armenian inscription reads,  
 ԺԻՐԱՆԻ Ի ՔԱՂԱՔՆ Ի ՄՍԻ (struck in the city of Sis).  
 2.89 g. /2.53 g. after cleaning, Bed. 1753V.

Since the coin was corroded and slightly oxidized, there was the possibility that cleaning would reveal its metal fabric. The coin was covered with aluminum foil on both sides and submerged in white kitchen vinegar (5 percent acetic acid) for 5 minutes with no change, and then 10 minutes more, with no change. It was boiled for 5 minutes with no change, and continued boiling for 10 minutes, still with no change. After 20 minutes of boiling, the vinegar began to acquire a greenish color. The process was terminated. The oxidation had disappeared and corroded pores were now apparent on both sides of the coin. The weight of the coin prior to cleaning was 2.89 grams; after cleaning it was reduced to 2.53 grams. Still, there was no indication that the coin is made of any metal other than copper. A very sharp razor blade was touched to the edge of the coin at four points. White silver-like metal appeared. The preliminary assumption was that the core of the coin was silver and the surface was copper.

Numismatic research indicated that debased silver coins can acquire a coating of copper. Earle R. Caley<sup>10</sup> describes an experiment where he tries to restore badly-corroded Roman coins. Twenty-five silver coins were suspended with copper wires within two percent sodium hydroxide solution and connected to the cathode side of the bath, electrolyzed at low D.C. current and voltage until free from corroded matter. Twenty-three coins of the lot were disfigured with copper coatings ranging from small isolated spots to completely copper-plated coins. According to Caley, the same effect would take place when silver coins with copper incrustations are accidentally placed in the bath along with the copper coins.<sup>11</sup>

The subject coin was discussed with a few veteran numismatists. Their comments indicated that if a silver coin was buried together with copper coins for several centuries, it is possible that a silver coin may become copper-surfaced as a result of an electrolytic process.

Two numismatic colleagues, Dr. D. M. Metcalf and Dr. L. A. Saryan were contacted since they had extensive experience in studying the alloy of Armenian silver coinage. Dr. Metcalf recommended<sup>12</sup> possibly using X-ray fluorescence or preferably electron probe microanalysis. Dr. Saryan offered his assistance in determining the chemical composition.<sup>13</sup>

<sup>10</sup> E. R. Caley, "The Deposition of Metallic Copper on Antique Silver Coins During Electrolytic Cleaning and a Method for Its Removal," *Technical Studies in the Field of the Fine Arts*, Vol. III (January 1935), No. 3, pp. 123-132.

<sup>11</sup> To obtain satisfactory results for electrolytic cleaning in cyanide solution, Caley recommends that the silver coins be suspended on silver or platinum wires and connected to the cathode side of the bath.

<sup>12</sup> Private communication dated October 30, 1992.

<sup>13</sup> I would like to take this opportunity to express my deep gratitude to Robert F. Dragen, Executive Vice President, Aspen Consulting, Inc., Brookfield, WI, and my friend Levon A. Saryan who on his own initiative coordinated and directed the non-destructive surface analyses using SEM-EDS on coins discussed in this paper. Furthermore, they were kind enough to provide me a lengthy summary of the procedure written by Dragen and Saryan which was excerpted and reproduced in this paper.

## Coin Analyses

It was decided that a few additional coins should be analyzed together with the copper-surfaced coin of King Levon III (Plate VII). One of them should be a silver takvorin of Levon III and the other two, copper pogh of Gosdantin IV struck with takvorin dies. The takvorin specimen was chosen since on the obverse has a distinct yellow tint and the reverse displays silver surfacing in light-grey color which in certain places has fallen away revealing white silver. The pogh of Gosdantin IV were chosen randomly.

Table I. Coins analyzed

No.	Ruler	CAA	Type	Diameter mm	Weight gm	Specific Gravity	Collection	Comments
1.	Levon III	1753V	AE Takvorin	22	2.53	6.33	YN N4235	No soil deposit
2.	Levon III	1741	AR Takvorin	20	2.43	9.72	YN N2233	No soil deposit
3.	Gosdantin IV	2223	AE Pogh w/takvorin die	20	1.59	8.83	YN N0402	No soil deposit
4.	Gosdantin IV	2221V	AE Pogh w/takvorin die	21	1.49	8.28	LAS	Soil deposit

## Chemical Surface Analysis Using SEM-EDS

Qualitative and quantitative chemical composition of the coins was determined using SEM-EDS (scanning electron microscopy with energy dispersive X-ray spectrometry). SEM-EDS is a totally non-destructive microanalytical procedure which is used by metallurgists to study the composition, structure, and chemical and physical behavior of metals. This method detects and quantifies elements (above atomic number 10) which are present in a material at a concentration of approximately 0.1% or greater. The maximum depth of X-ray penetration in a metallic alloy such as a coin would be 1-2 microns (0.001-0.002 millimeters).

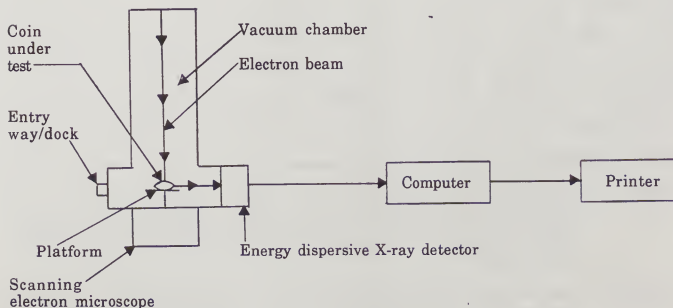


Fig. 1. Block diagram of test setup



### Test Procedure

Scanning electron microscope, Model JSM 35C, Japan Electron Optics Laboratory USA., Peabody, MA

Energy dispersive X-ray detector, Model Noran 5502, Northern Scientific, Middleton, WI

Computer, Model 5500/85 PC, Tracor/Northern, Middleton, WI

Printer, Model 8510+ dot matrix printer, C.Itoh, Tokyo, Japan

The analyses were performed at Aspen Consulting, Inc., Brookfield, WI, using a scanning microscope equipped with an energy dispersive X-ray detector. The aperture of the microscope vacuum chamber is large enough to admit objects measuring up to about 2 inches in diameter. No preliminary preparation or mounting of the coins was necessary for this study, nor are they altered in any way in the course of the test. The coins are simply removed from their storage envelopes, placed on a sample holder and inserted into the instrument. The procedure requires about 20 minutes per coin to complete.

Table II. Percentage analytical data normalized to 100 weight percent

	N4235 Obv.	N4235 Edge Scrape	N2233 Obv.	N2233 Obv. Between Heads	N402 Obv. Horse's Head	LAS Obv. Horse's Head
Al	3.1	3.6	0.3	0.2	-	0.6
Si	0.6	0.4	1.4	1.2	0.4	12.9
S	-	-	0.4	0.2	15.2	0.5
P	-	-	-	-	-	0.2
Cl	-	0.2	1.1	1.1	-	8.4
Ca	0.5	-	-	0.2	0.2	2.1
Cr	-	-	-	-	-	-
Fe	0.5	0.6	-	-	-	1.1
Cu	43.2	12.1	1.7	1.5	41.0	47.2
Zn	47.0	80.5	0.5	-	-	-
Ag	0.7	0.4	93.1	94.2	43.3	23.8
Pb	4.4	2.2	1.6	1.4	-	3.2

Coin No. 1 Obverse surface (N4235). Initially the surface of copper-surfaced coin was analyzed. The coin showed to have a surface composition of copper (43%) and zinc (47%), with traces of aluminum (3%) and lead (4%), and some smaller amounts of silicon, calcium, chromium, iron, silver. See Table II and Chart 1a.

Coin No. 1 Scraped edge (N4235). The test was continued using the same coin. The coin was turned on its edge and the beam was focused on the scratched area where shiny silver-like white metal was visible. This showed mostly zinc

(80%) and some copper (12%), with traces of aluminum (3%) and lead (2%), and some smaller amounts of silicon, chlorine, chromium, iron, and silver. The core of the coin is thus composed mostly of zinc. Virtually no silver or gold were present in the coin alloy. See Table II and Chart 1b.

Coin No. 2 Obverse (N2233). A silver takvorin of King Levon III. The beam was focused on the obverse surface. The coin alloy is good silver (93%), with traces of silicon (1%), chlorine (1%), copper (1%), and lead (1%), and some smaller amounts of aluminum, sulfur, and zinc. See Table II.

Coin No. 2 Obverse between heads (N2233). The test continued on the same coin except now the beam is focused between the heads of the king and the horse. Again the coin alloy is good silver (94%), with traces of silicon (1%), chlorine (1%), copper (1%), and lead (1%), and some smaller amounts of aluminum, calcium, gold, and sulfur. See Table II and Chart 2.

Coin No. 3 Obverse horse's head (N402). A copper pogh struck with takvorin die; the beam was focused on horse's head. The coin alloy showed silver (43%), copper (41%), and a significant amount of sulfur (15%), and some smaller amounts of silicon, calcium, and gold. The presence of sulfur is indicative that the coin is tarnished which may be source of its dark-brown coloration. See Table II and Chart 3.

Coin No. 4 Obverse horse's head (LAS). Another copper pogh struck with takvorin die was tested for copper-surface. The beam was focused on horse's head. The coin has more copper (47%) than silver (23%); significant levels of silicon (13%) and chlorine (8%) were found, and also traces of calcium (2%), iron (1%), lead (3%), and some smaller amounts of aluminum, sulfur, and phosphorus. See Table II and Chart 4.

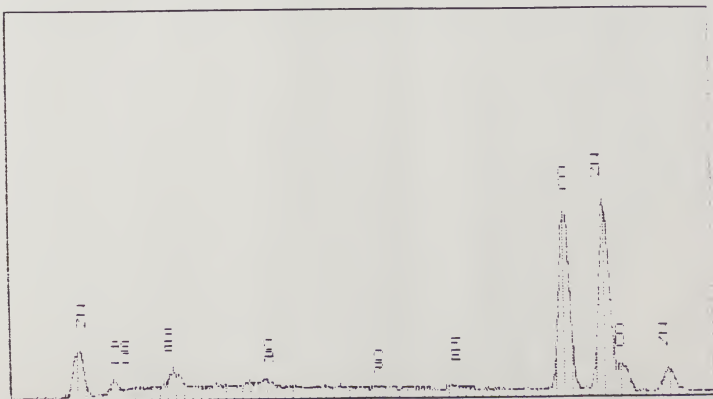


Chart 1a. (coin N4235 obv.)

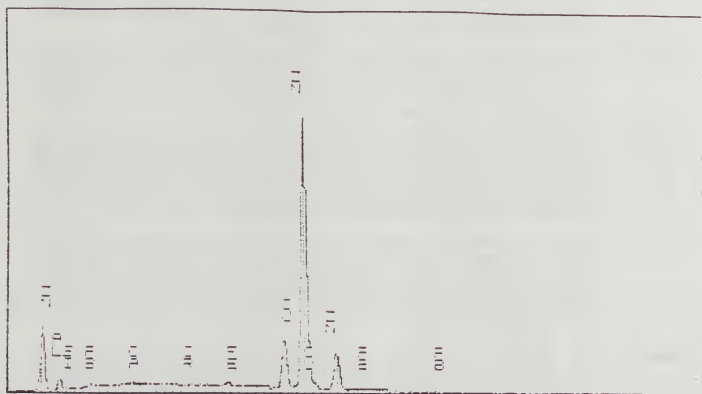


Chart 1b. (coin N4235 edge)

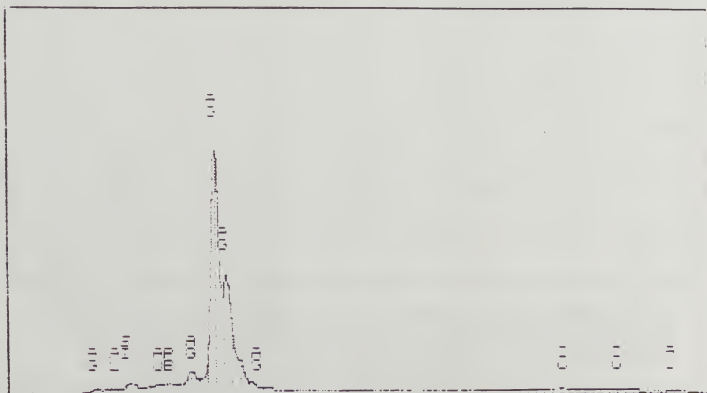


Chart 2. (coin N2233 between heads)

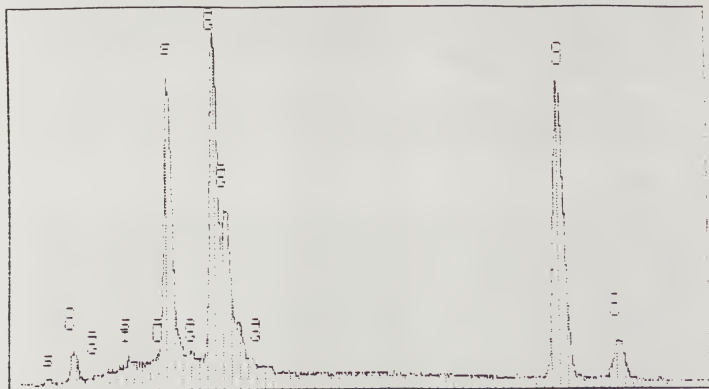


Chart 3. (coin N402)

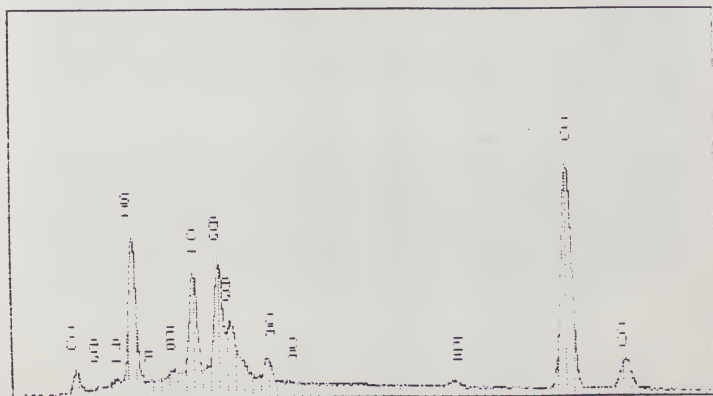


Chart 4. (coin LAS)

Although SEM-EDS enables one to obtain a fairly accurate surface analysis of the coin under test up to a depth of 1 to 2 microns, it must be remembered that the chemical makeup of the surface may not always reflect the bulk or internal composition of an object. In the case of ancient coins, which may be contaminated with dust, soil, or cleaning agents, and often have an oxidized surface which may not be representative of the overall or original intended composition of the coin, care must be taken in the interpretation of the results.

In this case, except for the first coin, surface analyses were performed without any preliminary treatment of the samples. Very small areas (less than a square millimeter) on the coin surfaces were selected for study.

## Conclusion

Coin No. 1 (a copper takvorin of Levon III) is a copper-surfaced coin with a core composed mostly of zinc. The coin appears to be a genuine struck piece. Several reasons could be advanced to explain why the coin was struck in zinc alloy rather than silver. 1) It is possible that the coins is a contemporary or later forgery. Zinc metal was known in India in the fourteenth century but was not used as such until about the sixteenth to seventeenth century,<sup>14</sup> although alloys of copper and zinc (brass) were known to the Romans and used to strike coins (orichalcum). Most likely, zinc may not have been available separately at this time. 2) The coin could have been produced from an old Roman coin or scrap possibly available in Cilicia (overstrike or recycled metal). 3) The recycled coin had been originally silver-plated but lost its plating over the centuries. 4) Possibly the coin was struck by mistake or was used as a pattern, but never recalled or destroyed. Regardless of what answer one prefers, it would be speculation at this point in time.

Coin No. 2, a cleaned takvorin of Levon III, seems to be a good silver coin. The specific gravity of 9.72 also attests to this. In his classic book, *Coinage of Cilician Armenia*, Paul Z. Bedoukian charted the silver content of Levon III takvorins and gives a range of 50 to 56 percent silver content.<sup>15</sup> This coin seems to be at the high end of silver content. The results could reflect selective enrichment of the silver surface with preferential loss of copper after cleaning. Here is an area which needs more exploration with newly discovered takvorin hoards.<sup>16</sup> This takvorin did not belong to a recently discovered hoard of Levon III.

Coin Nos. 3 and 4, copper pogs of king Gosdantin IV. The revelation on both of these coins is that they are not copper coins. Because of the black patina enveloping the coin they may look like one. In actuality they are billons, takvorins with much lower silver content. When newly struck, these coins probably resembled shiny white silver coins. However, due to the very poor silver content, when buried for centuries, it was tarnished into a very dark-brown or black color. This may also explain why some of the takvorins of Gosdantin IV sometimes look not silvery-white, not dark-brown, but a red color in between, similar to salmon-pink color. During the reign of King Gosdantin IV the silver content of takvorins was reduced to less than 40 percent.<sup>17</sup>

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<sup>14</sup> *Encyclopedia Americana*, Vol. 29, p. 711. *Encyclopedia Britannica*, Vol. 23, p. 968.

<sup>15</sup> P. Z. Bedoukian, *CCA*, p. 112, Graph II.

<sup>16</sup> See above, notes 7 and 8.

<sup>17</sup> P. Z. Bedoukian, *CCA*, p. 108.

## ՊՂԶԱՊԱՏ ՀԱՅԱՍՏԱՆԻ ԴՐԱՄՆԵՐ

[Ամփոփում]

Մի քանի տարի առաջ հեղինակը ձեռք բերաւ ժանգոտած պղնձեայ դրամ մը: Այս դրամին անսովոր կերպարանքը հարկադրեց հետազոտութիւն և հետաքննութիւն: Դրամը զարնուած է Կիլիկեան Հայաստանի Լևոն Գ թագաւորի (1301-1308) արծաթ թագաւորին կնիքներով (ձիալար երես, առիւծ կռնակ): Նոր ձեռք բերուած պղնձեայ դրամը կը նմանի այս թագաւորին արծաթ թագաւորին և ոչ թէ պղնձեայ քարտէզին:

Որոշուեցաւ թէ յաւելեալ մի քանի դրամներ ևս պէտք է վերլուծուին Լևոն Գ թագաւորի պղնձապատ դրամին հետ միաստեղ: Ասոնցմէ մին պէտք է ըլլայ Լևոն Գ-ի արծաթ թագաւորին մը, երկու այլ դրամներ՝ Կոստանդին Դ-ի պղնձեայ փողերը զարնուած արծաթ թագաւորին կնիքներով:

Դրամներու որակական ու քանակական քիմիական բաղադրութիւնը որոշուեցաւ SEM-EDS գործածելով (զննող էլեկտրոն մանրադիտակ միաստեղ ուժ տարածող Ք-ճառագայթի լուսապատկերաչափ—scanning electron microscopy with energy dispersive X-ray spectrometry): SEM-EDS ամբողջովին ոչ-կործանարար մանրազննական ընթացք մըն է, գործածուած՝ մետաղահաններու կողմէ ուսումնասիրելու մետաղաձուլներու բաղադրութիւնը, կազմը և քիմիական ու ֆիզիքական վարքը:

Թիւ 1 դրամը (Լևոն Գ-ի թագաւորին) պղնձապատ դրամ մըն է, որու կորիզը բաղկացած է մեծամասնութեամբ զինկէ: Ըստ էութեան զարնուած և հարազատ է դրամը:

Թիւ 2 դրամը, Լևոն Գ-ի մաքուր թագաւորին մը, կ'երևի ըլլալ բարձրորակ արծաթեայ դրամ մը: Այս դրամին տեսակարար ծանրութիւնը կը հաստատէ այս:

Դրամ թիւ 3 և 4, Կոստանդին Դ-ի պղնձեայ փողերը: Այս երկու դրամներու յայտնութիւնը այն է, թէ իրենք պղնձեայ դրամեր չեն: Դրամի պարզ սև խաւին պատճառով կը նմանի պղնձի իրականութեան մէջ ատոնք բիլոններ են, չափազանց քիչ արծաթի պարունակութեամբ թագաւորիններ:

Ե. Թ. ՆԵՐՍԷՍԻԱՆ

## ARMENIAN NUMISMATIC LITERATURE

11 CLASSICAL NUMISMATIC GROUP, INC. A Specialized Collection of Armenian & Related Coinage From Ancient to Medieval Times. Auction XXVII: A Mail Bid Auction Sale of Classical Coins. Quarryville, Pennsylvania: Classical Numismatic Group, Inc., 29 September 1993, pp. 5-25, Nos. 1-234, illus.

Description of the following Armenian coins or coins relating to Armenia are given: Arsames I (ca. 240 B.C.), a bronze with equestrian reverse; Abdissares (ca. 210 B.C.), a bronze with eagle reverse; Tigranes I (123-96 B.C.), bronze coins displaying a branch of tree, and Zeus seated; Tigranes II (95-56 B.C.), tetradrachms and a drachm displaying the Tyche on the reverse, bronze coins displaying Tyche, Heracles, cornucopiae, head of wheat, Nike, palm-branch, tripod, and horse; Artavasdes II (56-34 B.C.), a bronze with Nike reverse; Tigranes III (20-8 B.C.), a bronze with eagle reverse; Tigranes IV (8-5 B.C.), bronze coins with Nike, Heracles, and eagle reverses; a bronze of Tigranes V (ca. AD. 6) and Augustus; a bronze of Mithridates Callinicus (96-70 B.C.) with eagle/palm design; Mithridates II (after 70 B.C.), a bronze with lion reverse; an anonymous bronze; Roman coins relating to Armenia of the following rulers: Augustus (27 B.C. - A.D. 14), an aureus where the reverse displays Victory and bull and the legend ARMENIA CAPTA, a denarius where the reverse displays Armenian tiara, quiver and bow case and the legend ARMENIA CAPTA; Marcus Aurelius (161-180 A.D.), a denarius with Armenia seated and the legend ARMENI; a sesterius of Lucius Verus (A.D. 161-169) displaying the crowning of Sohemus; Umayyad and Abbasid coins bearing Arminiya inscription of



the following caliphs: al-Walid bin abd al-Malik (A.H. 86-96), dirham, anonymous Umayyad dirhams; Sulayman, dirham; a fals under rule of Ishak ibn-Muslim; al Mansur (A.H. 136-158), dirhams; al-Mahdi (A.H. 158-169), dirhams; al-Hadi (A.H. 169-170), dirham; al-Rashid (A.H. 170-193), dirhams; al-Mutawakkil (A.H. 232-247), a gold dinar; al-Mu'tazz (A.H. 251-255), dirham; al-Mu'amid (A.H. 256-279), dirham; Islamic coins belonging to Seljuqs of Rum, Ilkhanids, Eretnids, Jalayrids, Qara Qoyunlu and Aq Qoyunlu, Safavids, Afsharids, Qajars, and Khans of Ganja; Cilician Armenia, baronial coppers of Roupen I (1080-1095), Toros I (1100-1123), Levon II (1187-1199); royal period, Levon I (1199-1218), double trams, half double trams, half trams, coronation trams with one and two lions, regular trams, and tanks; Hetoum I (1226-1271), Hetoum-Kaiqobad bilingual trams and a half tram, Hetoum-Kaikhosrew bilingual trams and a half tram, Hetoum-Zabel regular trams and a half tram, a tank, equestrian and regular kardezzes; Levon II (1270-1289), pre-coronation trams, trams struck in Sis and Ayas, half trams struck with tram dies, and kardezzes; Hetoum II (1289-1306), billons and kardezzes with king's bust facing and king seated; Smpad (1296-1298), a coronation tram, a regular tram and a kardez; Gosdantin I (1298-1299), a tram and a kardez; Levon III (1301-1307), takvorins and kardezzes; Oshin (1308-1320), coronation trams, takvorins, a pogh, and trams overstruck in Arabic; Levon IV (1320-1342), takvorins, large and small pogh, and takvorins overstruck in Arabic; Guy (1342-1344), takvorins; Gosdantin III (1344-1363), a takvorin with lion walking left struck in Tarsus and regular takvorins struck in Sis, and pogh, and pogh struck in Sis; Levon the Usurper (1363-1365), takvorins and a pogh; Gosdantin IV (1365-1373), takvorins; Levon V (1374-1375), billons and a pogh. Post Roupenian copper coins. The Greek legends and weights of all coins are published.

YTN

Տրուած են հետեւյի հայկական դրամներու կամ Հայաստանի վերաբերեալ դրամներու նկարաւորութիւնները: Արշամ Ա (չուրջ 240 Ն.Ք.), բրոնզ մը ձիավար պատկերատիպով կոնսակին վրայ: Արդիսարէս (չուրջ 210 Ն.Ք.), բրոնզ մը արծիւ պատկերատիպով կոնսակին վրայ: Տիգրան Ա (123-96 Ն.Ք.), բրոնզէ դրամներ որոնց ետին պատկերուած է ծառ և Զևս: Տիգրան Բ (95-56 Ն.Ք.), չորեքդրամաններ ու դրամաններ որոնց ետին պատկերուած է Բախտը, բրոնզէ դրամներ որոնց կոնսակին վրայ պատկերուած է Բախտ, վաճառ, ամաթիղջիւր, ցորենի հատիկ, Յաղթանակի, արմատենիի ճիւղ, եռուտանի և ձի: Արտաւազը Բ (56-34 Ն.Ք.), բրոնզ մը Յաղթանակի պատկերատիպով կոնսակին վրայ: Տիգրան Գ (20-8 Ն.Ք.), բրոնզ մը որու կոնսակին վրայ պատկերուած է արծիւ, Տիգրան Դ (8-5 Ն.Ք.), բրոնզէ դրամներ որոնց ետին պատկերուած է Յաղթանակ, վաճառ և արծիւ: Բրոնզէ դրամ մը տրուած Տիգրան Ե-ին (8-Ք. 6) և Աւգոստոսին: Բրոնզէ դրամ մը Միհրդատ Կալլիսիկոսին (96-70 Ն.Ք.), ունենլով արծիւ/արմատենի պատկերատիպ: Միհրդատ Բ (70 Ն.Ք. թ. հտք), բրոնզ մը անոնց պատկերատիպով կոնսակին վրայ: անորոշ բրոնզ մը: Հայաստանի վերաբերեալ հետեւեալ զահակներուն հոռոմէական դրամները: Աւգոստոս (27 Ն.Ք.-Յ. 14), աւրելու մը որ ետին պատկերուած է Յաղթանակ և ցուլ ու խորագրութիւնն է ARMENIA CAPTA, զենաւորանք մը որու ետին պատկերուած է հայկական խոյր, կապարծ ու աղեղ և խորագրութիւնն է ARMENIA CAPTA: Մարկուս Աւրելիոս (161-180 Ք.Ք.), զենաւորանք մը որու ետին նստած է Հայաստանը և խորագրութիւնն է ARMEN. Եռլիոս վերոսի (161-169) սեսաւորանք մը որ կը պատկերացնէ Սոհեմոսի թագադրուիլը: Օմայեան և Աբբասեան հետեւեալ խալիֆաներուն դրամները որոնց վրայ Աբմիհիթ արձանագրուած է արաբերէն տառերով: ալ-Ուալիդ բին արդ ալ-Մալիք (Հ. 86-98) դիրհեմ: անորոշ Օմայեան դիրհեմներ: Սուլթանեմ, դիրհեմ: Ֆալու մը Իսհակ բին Մուսլիմի կառավարութեան ներքեւ: ալ-Մանսուր, (Հ. 136-158), դիրհեմներ: ալ-Մահդի (Հ. 158-169), դիրհեմներ: ալ-Հարի (Հ. 169-170), դիրհեմ: ալ-Ռաշիդ (Հ. 170-183), դիրհեմներ: ալ-Մուսթաֆա (Հ. 232-247), սուլէ դինար մը: ալ-Մուսթաֆա (Հ. 251-255), դիրհեմ: ալ-Մուսթաֆա (Հ. 256-279), դիրհեմ: Իսլամական դրամներ վերագրուած Ռուսի սելջուկներուն, իլխաններուն, Ենի Քիլիկներուն, Զալալիքներուն, Բարա Բոլուկներուն և Աք Բոլուկներուն, Մաֆաւեաններուն, Աֆշարեաններուն, Գանձակի իլաններուն և Քաւարներուն: Կիլիկեան Հայաստան, իլխանական լիւթանի պոլիմներ Ռուսի (1080-1095), Թորոս Ա-ի (1100-1123), Հայաստան, իլխանական լիւթանի պոլիմներ Ռուսի (1187-1199), թագաւորական լիւթան: Լեւոն Ա (1199-1218), երկդրամներ, կէս երկդրամներ, կէս դրամներ, մի և երկու աւիճով օծման դրամներ, հասարակ դրամներ և զանգեր: Հեթում Ա (1226-1271), Հեթում-Բայազետի երկլեզունան դրամներ ու կիսարամ, Հեթում-Բայազետի երկլեզունան դրամներ և կիսարամ մը: Հեթում-Զապէլի հասարակ և կէս դրամներ, զանգ մը, ձիավար և հասարակ քարտէզներ: Լեւոն Բ (1270-1289), նախածածան դրամներ, դրամներ կոխուած Սիւս և Այաս, կէս դրամներ կոխուած դրամներու կիլիքներով ու նաև քարտէզներ: Հեթում Բ (1289-1306), բիլլոններ և քարտէզներ թագաւորի հայր կիսանդրով և թագաւոր (Ծար. էջ 66)

## CHEMICAL ANALYSIS OF FOUR MEDIEVAL ARMENIAN SILVER ARTIFACTS

Between May 1993 and July 1994, the authors were fortunate to have the opportunity to examine four pieces of medieval silver jewelry reported to have been discovered with a hoard of Cilician Armenian coins. Three bracelets and a cross were analyzed, non-destructively, for surface chemical composition using scanning electron microscopy with energy dispersive X-ray spectrometry (SEM-EDS).

According to available information, these artifacts were found in a hoard of 810 silver trams of Hetoum-Zabel (1226-1270 A.D.) of Cilician Armenia.<sup>1</sup> Seventeen crosses and bracelets (including at least six with clasps, and open loops with decorative ornamentation) were part of the original trove, which was reportedly discovered in the city of Mersin in early 1992. One could speculate that the treasure represented the wealth of an Armenian of that city which was buried for safe keeping during Hetoum's reign, when the Armenian kingdom was under attack by Seljuk and Mamluk invaders.

### The Artifacts

Although very little has been published about such artifacts heretofore, it seems very likely that the objects examined are of medieval Armenian manufacture.<sup>2</sup> In order to verify their provenance and authenticity, four artifacts from the group were generously made available with the cooperation of private collectors and dealers for non-destructive chemical analysis, as follows:

**Bracelet 1:** circular band with a small diamond-shaped clasp and engraved ornamentation (overall diameter 60 mm, band width 12 mm, weight 15.73 grams), CH collection;

**Bracelet 2:** open loop with heart-motif ornamented ends, and areas which may once have been set with precious or semi-precious stones (overall diameter 72 mm, band width 12 to maximum 26 mm, weight 27.08 grams), MP collection;

**Bracelet 3:** open loop similar to bracelet 2, but with lion's head ornamentation (overall diameter 62 mm, band width 9 mm, weight 19.74 grams), MP collection;

**Cross:** Armenian-style with decorative corners, ornamented on one face, with a circular ring for hanging (length 60 mm by width 43 mm, 9.86 grams including ring), MP collection.

<sup>1</sup> Six silver bracelets were offered for sale by Y. T. Nersessian, *Bulletin* 15, Supplement C (May 1992), lot No. 289; one was offered by CNG in auction XXII (September 1992), lot No. 992.

<sup>2</sup> Examination of the artistic elements and decorative motifs is beyond the scope of this paper; specialists who have viewed these materials confirm that the designs correspond to motifs of Armenian manuscript art. Y. T. Nersessian kindly offered the following comments: "In many cases, the design motifs are very similar or practically identical to illuminated Armenian miniatures, indicating that the motifs used on Armenian miniatures and bracelets had a common source." See L. Dournovo, *Armenian Miniatures* (New York, 1961), pp. 75, 77, 117, 121, 123, and 133; A. Guevorkian, *The Crafts and Mode of Life in Armenian Miniatures* (in Armenian, Russian, and English), (Yerevan, 1978), plates 7 and 13; L. Dournovo, *Ornaments of Armenian Manuscripts* (in Armenian with English translation), (Yerevan, 1978), plates, 38, 39, 41, 49, 50, 64, and 78.

The design monogram on bracelet 1 resembles the Armenian letter *t*, and a close parallel is seen in a gospel of 1265 illustrated by Cilician Armenian artist T'oros Roslin, (see Sirarpi Der Nersessian, *Armenian Art* (Paris 1978), p. 136, plate 99).

### Methods

The SEM-EDS analyses were performed on a JEOL JSM 35C (Japan Electron Optics Laboratory USA, Peabody, MA) scanning electron microscope equipped with a Noran 5502 (Northern Scientific, Middleton, WI) energy dispersive X-ray detector. The methods and instrumentation are described in detail elsewhere.<sup>3</sup> In order to preserve the artifacts it was decided to analyze them using a non-destructive method. The artifacts were supplied in fairly clean condition; no further cleaning or alteration was required prior to the analysis, and they remained completely unchanged by the test procedure. The vacuum chamber of the electron microscope had to be opened to admit each piece in its entirety which required extra time to perform. These artifacts are about as large as the instrument chamber can comfortably accommodate; larger objects would require sampling, resulting in alteration of the specimen.

A single reading was obtained for each bracelet. Because of the size and configuration limitations of the microscope chamber, the bracelets were read on their edges. The cross was studied in three locations: the exact center of its ornamented face, the exact center of its back face, and near a hairline crack on one arm also on the back. Since SEM-EDS is a surface procedure, the results obtained may not exactly reflect the bulk or original composition of an object; surface enrichment, corrosion, contamination from soil and/or residues of cleaning agents are often present. Elements below atomic number 10 may be present, but are not typically detected or quantitated in this procedure.

### Results and Discussion

The analytical findings are presented in Table I, along with the analysis of a Hetoum silver tram analyzed on the same instrument on a different occasion as a comparison.<sup>4</sup> Each artifact is composed of silver (minimum of 86.5%) alloyed with a small percentage of copper. Traces of gold, lead, magnesium, silicon, and sometimes aluminum are detected. Lead and gold probably entered the alloy as trace constituents of medieval silver. Magnesium, aluminum, and silicon, however, are unlikely to have been part of the original alloy; their presence probably reflects soil contamination and/or prior cleaning. Phosphorus, sulfur, and chlorine are likewise unlikely to have been constituents of the original alloy; when present, they can be interpreted as the result of chemical interaction between the artifact and the environment.

TABLE I. SEM-EDS analyses of Armenian artifacts (percentages by weight)

	Bracelet 1		Bracelet 2		Bracelet 3		Cross face center		Cross rev. center		Cross rev. crack		Hetoum I tram*	
	actual	adjst	actual	adjst	actual	adjst	actual	adjst	actual	adjst	actual	adjst	actual	adjst
Ag	91.0	92.3	86.5	91.4	88.3	90.7	91.1	94.6	92.3	94.1	92.5	94.3	90.4	92.5
Cu	5.3	5.4	5.1	5.4	3.4	3.5	2.8	2.9	3.0	3.0	2.4	2.5	5.1	5.2
Pb	1.5	1.5	2.0	2.1	4.0	4.1	nd	nd	0.8	0.8	0.7	0.7	1.0	1.0
Au	0.8	0.8	1.1	1.1	1.7	1.8	2.5	2.6	2.0	2.0	2.5	2.5	1.2	1.2
Si	0.7	---	2.9	---	1.4	---	1.9	---	0.4	---	0.4	---	0.7	---
Mg	0.7	---	1.8	---	0.8	---	1.7	---	1.1	---	1.0	---	nd	nd
Al	nd	nd	0.6	---	0.5	---	nd	nd	0.5	---	0.5	---	**1.6	---

nd = not detected

\* = see Saryan and Dragen, in this issue of *Armenian Numismatic Journal*

\*\* = includes aluminum, phosphorus, sulfur, chlorine

<sup>3</sup> Articles elsewhere in this issue of *Armenian Numismatic Journal* by Saryan and Dragen (pp. 45-51), and Nercessian (pp. 53-61).

<sup>4</sup> See Saryan and Dragen, *Armenian Numismatic Journal* (pp. 45-51).

Accordingly, the analytical results for each object are expressed in two ways: overall percentage by weight as determined by the instrument, expressed to the nearest tenth of a percent, and the adjusted percent by weight taking into account only the proportions of silver, copper, gold, and lead, the presumed components of the original alloy. The adjusted analyses show that in all four cases, the original alloy contained between 90.7 and 94.6 percent silver with most of the remainder being copper. This is very similar to the coinage alloy of Hetoum I<sup>5</sup> and was probably prepared by similar metallurgical procedures.

As noted above, surface analysis may not provide exactly the bulk composition of an object. Nevertheless, for several reasons, these analyses probably reflect quite closely the interior composition of these artifacts, which have little if any apparent corrosion and minimal surface contamination. Multiple readings from the cross show some variation in composition from area to area, which may reflect experimental error or slight differences in surface contamination, but the overall results correlate closely. Generally, the surface compositions of all four objects are quite similar to each other.

### Conclusion

Non-destructive surface analysis using SEM-EDS can provide useful information pertaining to the authenticity and attribution of small-sized ancient artifacts. The chemical composition of uncleaned surfaces of four silver artifacts is consistent with the composition of medieval Armenian silver tram of Hetoum I. This is strong evidence of the authenticity of the artifacts and supports the attribution of these pieces to mid-thirteenth century Cilician Armenia.

LEVON A. SARYAN, Ph.D.

ROBERT F. DRAGEN

CHARLES A. HAJINIAN, D.D.S.

### ՄԻՋՆԱԴԱՐԵԱՆ ԶՈՐՍ ՀԱՅԿԱԿԱՆ ԱՐԾԱԹԵՂԷՆՆԵՐՈՒ ՏԱՐՐԱԳԻՏԱԿԱՆ ՎԵՐԼՈՒԾՈՒՄ

Հեղինակները կրցան քննել միջնադարեան չորս արծաթեղէններ, որոնք տեղեկագրուած էին թէ յայտնաբերուած են Կիլիկեան Հայաստանի վերաբերող դրամագիտի մը հետ: Երեք ապարանջիլ ու մէկ խաչ վերլուծուեցան ոչ-կործանարար մեթոտով, մակերեսի քիմիական բաղադրութեան համար գործածելով զննող էլեկտրոն մանրադիտակ միացած հիմնական վերլուծում գործածող ուժ տարածող Գ-ճառագայթի լուսապատկերաչափ, SEM-EDS (scanning electron microscopy with energy dispersive X-ray spectrometry):

Վերլուծումները ցոյց կու տան, թէ չորս պարագաներուն մետաղաձուլը նման էր Հեթում I թագաւորի արծաթ դրամներուն, պարունակելով 90.7 մինչև 94.6 առ հարիւր արծաթ, մնացածին մեծամասնութիւնը ըլլալով պղինձ: Հաւանաբար պատրաստուած իրարու նման մետաղագործական գործելակերպով:

Այս զօրաւոր փաստ մըն է արուեստի աշխատանքի հարազատութեան համար ու զօրավիզ կը կանգնի արծաթեղէններուն տասներորդ դարու Կիլիկեան Հայաստանի վերագրումին:

ԼԵՒՈՆ Ա. ՍԱՐԵԱՆ  
ՌՈԲԵՐՏ Ֆ. ԴՐԱԳԷՆ  
ՉԱՐԼՍ Ա. ՀԱՅԻՆԻԱՆ

<sup>5</sup> See articles by D. M. Metcalf, "The Alloy of the Thirteenth-Century Silver Coinage of Cilician Armenia," *Armenian Numismatic Journal*, Vol. IV (1978), pp. 57-66; and P. Z. Bedoukian, *Coinage of Cilician Armenia* (New York, 1962), pp. 108-113).

## ARMENIAN NUMISMATIC LITERATURE

(Շար. էջ 62)

նստած. Սմբատ (1296-1298), օծման դրամ մը, սովորական դրամ մը և քարտէջ մը. Կոստանդին Ա (1298-1299), դրամ մը և քարտէջ մը. Լևոն Գ (1301-1307), թագուորիններ և քարտէջներ. Օշին (1308-1320), օծման դրամներ, թագուորիններ, փող և արաբերէնով կրկնադրոշմուած դրամներ. Լևոն Դ (1320-1342), թագուորիններ, մեծ ու փոքր փողեր և թագուորիններ արաբերէնով կրկնադրոշմուած. Կի (1342-1344), թագուորիններ. Կոստանդին Գ (1344-1363), թագուորին Այաս կտրուած ուր առիւծը կը բալէ դէպի ձախ, թագուորիններ կոխուած Սիս, փողեր կոխուած Սիս-կտրուած (1363-1365), թագուորիններ և փող մը. Կոստանդին Դ (1365-1373), Լևոն Բռնկակալ (1363-1365), թագուորիններ և փող մը. Յետ Ռուբենեան պոյինձէ դրամներ, թագուորիններ. Լևոն Ե (1374-1375), բիլոններ և փող մը. Յետ Ռուբենեան պոյինձէ դրամներ, Հրատարակուած են յունատար խորագրութիւնները և բոլոր դրամներու ծանրութիւնները. ԵՅՆ

- 12** NERCESSIAN, Y. T. Tigran B.i k'aghkosneru dramagiwt me - [A Hoard of Copper Coins of Tigranes II] - Տիգրան Բ-ի քաղկոսներու դրամագիւտ մը, գրեց՝ Եղիա Ներսէսեան. *Bazmavep*, Vol. CLI (1993), Nos 1-4, pp. 162-182, 2 pls. In Armenian with English summary.

A small Armenian hoard is described. The hoard consists of 75 bronze coins of Tigranes the Great. The coins are sorted into seven groups based on their reverse design: Tyche (32 pieces), Heracles (20), cornucopae (7), head of wheat (1), Nike (7), palm-branch (2), overstruck coins with Tyche reverse (6). The author presents an historical background, discusses the hoard content and overstruck coins, metrology, die study, and chronology. The data is offered in a five page tabulated format.

Author  
Նկարագրուած է հայկական փոքր դրամագիւտ մը: Գտնձը կը բաղկանայ Տիգրան Մեծի 75 բրոնզէ դրամներէ: Դրամները ըստ իրենց ետեւի պատկերագրութեան, բաժնուած են եօթը խումբերու. Բախտ (32 կտոր), Վահագն (20), ամաթեղջիւր (7), ցորենի հատիկ (1), Յաղթանակ (7), արմաւենիի ճիւղ (2), կրկնադրոշմուած դրամներ (6): Հեղինակը կ'ընծայէ պատմական ուրուագիծ մը, կը քննարկէ դրամագիւտի պարունակութիւնն ու կրկնադրոշմուած դրամներ, չափագիտութիւն, կնիքներու ուսումնասիրութիւն և ժամանակագրութիւն: Դրամագիտական տուեալները ներկայացուած են Հինգէ Հէրէ բաղկացեալ աղիւսակներով: Հեղինակը

- 13** SAYLES, Wayne G. Just for Beginners, by Wayne G. Sayles. *Celator*, Vol. 7 (October 1993), p. 44.

As an answer to a question, the author explains how the Armenians colonized Cilicia which was relatively barren in the eleventh century. During the Crusades, the Rousepian dynasty acquired legitimacy, and issued a long series of Armenian coinage. YTN

Իբրեւ հարցումի մը պատասխան, հեղինակը կը բացատրէ, թէ ինչպէս Հայերը Կիլիկիան հաստատուեցան, որ տասնմէկերորդ դարուն համեմատաբար քիչ բնակուած լեռնադաշտ մըն էր: Խաչակրութեան ժամանակ Ռուբինեան հարստութիւնը օրինականութիւն ստացաւ և թողարկեց հայկական դրամներու երկար համակարգ մը: ԵՅՆ

- 14** SARYAN, Levon A. Armenia Replaces Failing Ruble with Tram, by L. A. Saryan. *World Coin News*, Vol. XX (20 Decmber 1993), No. 26, p. 6.  
See abstract of No. 17.

- 15** SARYAN, Levon A. Overstruck Bronze Coins of Tigranes the Great, by Leon A. Saryan. *Celator*, Vol. 7 (October 1993), No. 10, p. 32-34; *The Best of the Celator*. Lodi, Wisconsin: 1993, pp. 84-85.

Saryan described how in ancient times coins were overstruck by Tigranes the Great. He notes that P. Z. Bedoukian, C. Foss, W. Maksoudian discussed overstruck Armenian bronze coins. The author solicits the support of the numismatic community so that their overstruck coins be included in a forthcoming project. YTN

Սարյանը կը նկարագրէ թէ ինչպէս Տիգրան Մեծի դրամները կրկնադրոշմուած են Հին Հրէանին: Ինք կը նշէ թէ Զ. Պ. Պոստոլեան, Կ. Ֆոս, Ու. Մաքսուդեան քննարկեցին կրկնադրոշմուած հայկական բրոնզէ դրամներ: Հեղինակը կը դիմէ դրամագիտական համայնքին ու կը խնդրէ իրենց աջակցութիւնը, որ իրենց կրկնադրոշմուած դրամները ցուցակագրութիւն յառաջիկայ հետազոտական աշխատանքին մէջ: ԵՅՆ





Fig. A. Photomicrograph of etched cross-section of coin 1 (200X)



Fig. B. Photomicrograph of etched cross-section of coin 2 (200X)

L. A. Saryan and R. F. Dragen, A Microchemical Investigation of Suspected Plating on Thirteenth-Century Armenian Silver Trams



PLATE VII



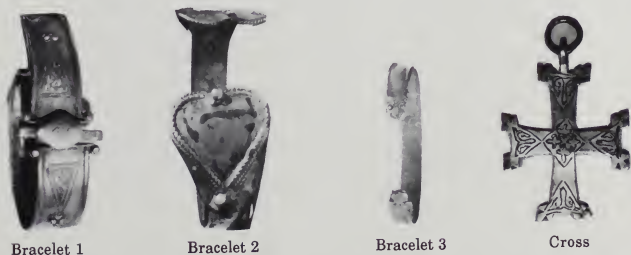
L. A. Saryan and R. F. Dragen, A Microchemical Investigation of Suspected Plating on Thirteenth-Century Armenian Silver Trams

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Y. T. Nercessian, Copper-Surfaced Armenian Coins

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L. A. Saryan, R. F. Dragen, Ch. A. Hajinian, Chemical Analysis of Four Medieval Armenian Silver Artifacts



Series I

Volume XX, No. 4

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ARMENIAN

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NUMISMATIC

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# ՀԱՅ ԴՐԱՄԱԳԻՏԱԿԱՆ ՀԱՆԴԻՍ ARMENIAN NUMISMATIC JOURNAL

Series I

Vol. XX, No. 4

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## EDITORIAL

### TWENTY YEARS OF ARMENIAN NUMISMATIC JOURNAL

With this volume, the *Armenian Numismatic Journal* completes two decades. Compared to British, French, German, Italian, and American numismatic periodicals, this may not be considered as an outstanding achievement. Yet, to Armenian numismatics, it is a great milestone. One must keep in mind that our journal is not only the first, but also the only existing periodical strictly dedicated to Armenian numismatics.

Forty years ago there were a few Armenian numismatic scholars, and the number of coin collectors was not much larger either. During the past few years we lost several Armenian numismatic scholars. Currently, the number of serious collectors is much greater than it was two decades earlier. However, the number of collectors willing to inscribe their thoughts to paper has moved forward very slowly. In fact the rate of progress is moving at such a slow pace that it is alarming.

Today we have a new generation of highly educated, professional youth belonging to many different cultural organizations and taking pride in his or her roots either in Armenia or abroad. Most of these people, in their own right, have many talents and are very creative. Some write in one form or another and prepare technical reports in line of their professional duties.

Expansion and development of Armenian numismatics depends on the discovery and research of new material which will gradually advance our knowledge. We need essays or papers from our members who have unpublished, new, or different material.

In order to encourage a collector to submit papers to our journal, we created a new section under the heading of "Numismatic Notes." Here unpublished or new "bare bones" material will be published. That is, the writer can simply describe the material he or she has and tell us what is new about it. If he or she does not wish, there is no need to compose historical background, analyze obverse and reverse dies, study metrology, or prepare a conclusion. Such a note can be as small as a few hundred words.

Twenty years later, due to the lack of \$4000 in the budget, our journal has remained in newsletter format, modest in appearance, but does not remain behind other international numismatic or Armenological periodicals in content and quality. With your help, we even published two commemorative volumes of our journal which can bring pride to any scholarly institution. God willing, with the financial backing and numismatic compositions of our members, we hope to complete our twenty-fifth and thirtieth volumes.

Y. T. Nercessian

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## LETTERS

Երկու օր արաջ մեծ ուրախութեամբ ստացայ Ձեր պահարանը... Ալեքսանդրապոլի թղթադրամին առիթով (տե՛ս ՀԴՀ, Դեկտեմբեր 1991), կ'ուզեմ յաւելում մը ընել. Ձեր առաջարկած 1922 թուականը որպէս թողարկումի տարեթիւ կ'ամրապնդուի եթէ նկատի ունենանք որ փաստաթուղթը տպուած է դասական ուղղագրութեամբ: Այսպէս կոչուած «նոր» կամ «բարեփոխուած» ուղղագրութեան հաստատում հրամանագիրը հրատարակուած է 4 Մարտ 1922ին. հետեւաբար, կը տարուի մտածելու, որ յիշեալ թղթադրամը պէտք է հրապարակ ելած ըլլայ 1922ի առաջին երկու ամիսներուն...

Vartan Matiossian  
Buenos Aires

Շտապում եմ յայտնել Ձեզ, որ 1994 թ. Յունուարի 14-ին Ձեր ուղարկած ծրարը ես ստացայ 1994 թ. Օգոստոսի 6-ին: Ինձ համար մեծ ուրախութիւն էր, երբ այնտեղ դտայ իմ յօդուածի առանձնատիպերը և Հայ Դրամագիտական Հանդէսի 1993 թուականի հրապարակուած լրիւ համարները...

Anahit Mousheghian  
Yerevan

...Խնդրում եմ շտապ ուղարկէք Ձեր ընկերակցութեան մասին հետեւեալը՝ 1) Քանի մարդ է ընդգրկուած ընկերակցութեան մէջ առ 1 Յունուար 1992 թ. և քանի երկրից, 2) Հրատարկուած թիւներէ հեռանկարի մասին... (February 16, 1992)

Henry V. Sarkissian  
Yerevan

**Editor's Note:** 1) 82 paid members and with unpaid deliveries total circulation exceeds 150, from 20 different countries. 2) Future Armenian numismatic works:

### Books

Armenian Coins and Their Values  
Armenian Medals, by Henry V. Sarkissian  
Armenian Numismatic Bibliography and Literature, Vol. II  
Armenian Tokens  
Bank Notes of Armenia, Vol. II or revised edition  
Chronology of Armenian Coins  
Diary of an Armenian Numismatist, by Paul Z. Bedoukian  
Dictionary of Armenian Coin Inscription and Their Meaning  
Islamic Coins Struck in Historic Armenia  
Metallurgy of Armenian Coins  
Paul Z. Bedoukian Collection Donated to the State Museum of Armenian History  
Selected Numismatic Studies of Paul Z. Bedoukian, Vol. II  
Stamps of Armenia  
Who is Who in Armenian Numismatics or Biography of Armenian Numismatists

*Armenian Numismatic Journal* in Honor of Dr. Khatchadour A. Mousheghian  
*Armenian Numismatic Journal* in Honor of Henry V. Sarkissian  
*Armenian Numismatic Journal* in Honor of Fr. Augustinus Sekoulian

## DONATIONS

(Period ending 30 September 1994)

Der Houghasian, H.....	50	Hagopian, L.....	17
Movsessian, G.....	25	Sagherian, P., Jr.....	17
Saryan, L.....	85	Setian, Ch.....	42

## MEMBERSHIP DUES INCREASE

As of January 1, 1995, membership dues for regular or active members: \$10; for juniors: \$8.00; entrance fee: \$2.50; subscriptions: \$12.50. 1995 membership dues and and subscriptions are payable at this time.

*To the unfading memory  
of my numismatist friend  
Prof. Asbed Donabedian.*

## THE ARMENIAN COIN AUCTION OF PROF. ASBED DONABEDIAN (1994)

Prof. Asbed Donabedian's name occupied one of the first places on my list, when in 1970 I started collecting numismatic literature and studying the coins of the Artaxiad dynasty of Armenia. During the same year, when preparing my Armenian numismatic bibliography, I contacted Asbed and a warm friendship developed between us.

Asbed was born in Antelias, Lebanon on January 6, 1923. His parents, Mihran and Tuna, were born in Sebastia, Turkey. He was the youngest among five children (Nvard, Astghig, Husig, and Hasmig). He received his elementary education at the Armenian Evangelical College in Beirut. Then he worked at the Chemistry Laboratory of the American University of Beirut. Also at AUB, he worked towards a B.S. degree in chemistry and M.S. degree in psychology.

Asbed taught at the Armenian Evangelical College for thirty-one years. After a pause of two years, he returned and taught three more years without pay. The subjects he taught were chemistry, history, geography, and psychology. When needed, he also provided first aid service to the students. Asbed was an educated person with a modest and pleasant personality. He was always eager to share his knowledge. His primary avocation was Armenian numismatics.

Asbed had a deep interest in his nation's history and coinage. He allocated all his spare time to collecting and studying Armenian coins. He specialized in studying and writing on Artaxiad coins, particularly those of Tigranes the Great, small silver and copper metallic monuments, struck around two-thousand years ago. He was an authority in the study of Artaxiad coins. He subjected his rare ancient coins to careful study and for the first time he attributed them to their correct ruler. God had given him the talent to write. His first article was published in *Shirak Monthly* in 1967. Later he wrote several authoritative and scholarly articles in *Janaser*, *Jahakir*, and particularly in *Haigazian Armenological Review* periodicals.

In 1989 he retired permanently from teaching and migrated to Los Angeles because of the civil war in Lebanon. In Los Angeles our friendship was transformed into an extremely close bond, a spiritual relationship, as numismatic brothers. We were in constant communication by telephone, personal visits, Armenian Numismatic Society meetings, consulting and discussing Armenian numismatic subjects.

In mid-November 1992, I telephoned Asbed to inform him about the tragic death of Dr. Mesrop Abgaryan, a fellow numismatist. I was shocked when his sister, Hasmig, told me that Asbed had suffered a heart attack on November 8, 1992, and was hospitalized. I visited him in the hospital weekly. Generally speaking, Asbed looked much younger than his age, between 50 and 60 years old. On my last visit (January 21, 1993), his physical appearance had deteriorated so much that he had taken the appearance of an old man: his skin was wrinkled, dried, dehydrated, eyes sunken backward, and he had lost quite a bit of weight. His eyes were fixed on the television and he did not respond to my conversation (from the first day of the heart attack he was paralyzed and could not speak). My observations were communicated to Hasmig by telephone. A few days later, on Sunday morning, Hasmig telephoned to give the sad news that Asbed passed away on January 23, 1993. Funeral services took place on January 30, 1993. Rev. Berdj Djam-bazian officiated and Dr. Armen Geonjian, one of Asbed's students, delivered the eu-



logy at Old North Church. His remains were buried at Forest Lawn—Hollywood Hills, Los Angeles, California.<sup>1</sup>

Asbed loved collecting and studying Armenian coins. They were very close to his heart. Until his last day he was trying to awaken interest in the public, so that more Armenians would embrace and caress their ancient monuments, which recall the glorious past of our nation and are witnesses to Armenian culture and independent government.

His coin collection, one of the largest private holdings in the world, was gathered for the purpose of research and study. Many of his medieval coins were utilized and cited by P. Z. Bedoukian when preparing the corpus of Cilician Armenian coins. In Los Angeles he planned to study all of his coins, including the hoards and write a few monographs. Unfortunately, he did not live long enough to realize this dream. Even before his collection could arrive in Los Angeles, he was stricken with a massive heart attack and he departed from this world.

Asbed's coin collection was formed over several decades in Beirut, Lebanon. After he settled in Los Angeles, his collection followed him, but traveled only as far as London. Subsequent to his death, his family decided that the collection should be auctioned in London. However, Asbed had brought with him to Los Angeles his collection of Armenian bank notes, medals, and numismatic literature. Also he started purchasing coins in Los Angeles. Only those coins which were in London were consigned to Spink and Son, Ltd., for sale in a public auction.<sup>2</sup>

Asbed's collection included numerous rarities and key coins. Most of all, the collection was an assembly of hoards (i.e., Tigranes II tetradrachms and some bronzes, Smpad trams, Oshin coronation trams, etc.). The collection was divided into 359 lots (120-478) which included coins of the Artaxiad dynasty, the Armenian kingdoms of Sophene and Commagene, Roman and Islamic coins relating to Armenia, Edessa, and lastly Cilician Armenian coins. Some noteworthy lots were bronzes of Tigranes I (17 pieces); Tigranes II tetradrachms (44), drachms (5), 38 lots of various bronzes (more than 800 pieces); 6 lots of Artavasdes II bronzes (27); Artaxias II (13); Tigranes III (41); Tigranes IV (31); Artavasdes III (6); Tigranes IV and Erato (18); bronzes of Sophene and Commagene; rare and scarce Cilician Armenian baronial bronzes (24); Levon I double trams (9), half trams (3), and a single lion coronation tram; Hetoum-Zabel half trams (13); Levon II Hetoum-Zabel type pre-coronation trams (3) and half trams (11); Hetoum II billons (11); Smpad coronation and regular trams (72); Gosdantin I kardezzes (16); Oshin coronation trams (15); Gosdantin III takvorins struck in Tarsus (3) and a piece overstruck in Arabic; Levon V billons (10) and poghs (52).

A collection of this nature poses a difficult problem for the prospective auctioneer. It would be physically impractical to provide photographs and complete descriptions for each coin, especially when many were valued at only a few pounds each. It was also very difficult to bid intelligently on many lots, since only a small proportion of the coins were photographed or described with sufficient detail.

Altogether, there were 96 excellent photographs for 4552 coins, of which 34 were given to silver tetradrachms and drachms of Tigranes the Great. The remaining 62 illustrations were intended to cover 4518 pieces, and this imbalance made it impossible to bid without seeing the coins. On the other hand, the grading was conservative<sup>3</sup> and in

<sup>1</sup> A. Geonjian, "Prof. Asbed H. M. Donabedian: The Armenian Instructor," *Armenian Numismatic Journal*, Series I, Vol. XIX (1993), No. 3, pp. 60-61 (in Armenian).

<sup>2</sup> Spink, *Coin Auction 102: Ancient, Foreign and English Coins and Commemorative Medals* (London, March 1994), pp. 12-32, 56-60, Nos. 120-478.

<sup>3</sup> Grading according to *Spink Numismatic Circular*: FDC = Fleur De Coin, EF = Extremely Fine, VF = Very Fine, F = Fine, f = fair, and P = Poor.

many cases very conservative. For some lots references were made to the standard works by Bedoukian. Unfortunately, the legends for medieval coins were not published, and in most cases the metrological data was missing.

Auctions serve an important function for the collectors, and the disposal of collections at auction should not be stigmatized. Winning bidders have the opportunity to obtain pieces that might otherwise never be available to them, and can gratify thereby their pride of ownership. For researchers, however, auctions like this one are a disaster, since the coins are spread to so many collectors that it becomes impossible to reconstruct the groups. Donabedian's collection included a large number of hoards which are now beyond the grasp of research.

The Donabedian collection is now dispersed to collectors around the world, and collectors only have this minimal auction catalogue as a record of what was once one of the largest private Armenian collections in the world. At the very least, a more extensive catalogue or record of the collection would have received the gratitude of the numismatic community.

The auction started promptly on March 2, 1994, 10:00 A.M. At 10:45 the Donabedian coins were being auctioned. Generally speaking, the estimated prices of Spink were fair. However, some rich Armenian collectors, without respect to market value, pushed the price of many coins to extremely high levels: a VF tetradrachm (lot 121) realized £1000; an unpublished bronze of Tigranes II (lot 174) with quadriga reverse £420; 6 bronzes of Artavasdes II (lot 188) £700; 6 bronzes of Artaxias II (lot 193) £500; 3 bronzes of Tigranes IV (lot 197) £420; bronzes of Tigranes IV and Erato (lot 206) £650; a double tram of Levon I (lot 245) £1400; 7 regular trams of Levon I (only one with AMEN inscription) (lot 258) £1250 (unbelievable!); a coronation tram of Smpad (lot 368) £1300; and a billon of Levon V (lot 469) £550.

The range of estimated value for the Donabedian collection was £50,000 to £65,000. More than ninety lots were unsold during the auction. Those that were sold realized more than £86,000 (including buyer's fee). Subsequently, all remaining lots were sold to private parties.<sup>4</sup>

In the catalogue, there was no indication that the Donabedian auction was subject to a reserve. Naturally, it is the privilege of the consigner and/or an auction house to establish announced or unannounced reserves. If so published, it would eliminate lots of futile effort by collectors. As a matter of fact, I and many collector friends assumed that there was no reserve. Yet the auctioneer opened the bidding normally at 70-80% of minimum estimates. Consequently, many less desirable lots were unsold. Had they been auctioned without reserve (or if a reserve had been announced in the catalogue) probably all or most of them would have sold. I personally was prepared to bid for myself and on behalf of collector friends on every single lot of the Donabedian auction. However, for reasons indicated, this did not materialize.

The Donabedian collection auction ended at 1:50 P.M. In 3 hours and 5 minutes Asbed's Armenian coin collection was scattered to collectors all over the world, the final rite of my friend's funeral services.

The statistical data is tabulated and offered to our readers as a useful guide to current prevailing prices and for posterity. The prices quoted include the sale price plus the 10% buyer's fee.<sup>5</sup>

Y. T. NERCESSIAN

<sup>4</sup> In a private communication dated 3 May 1994, Mr. John Pett, Director of Spink's 'Ancient Coin Department, indicated that "... All the lots have now been sold as we had numerous enquiries after the sale."

<sup>5</sup> On March 2, 1994, Spink's exchange rate was £1.00 = \$1.531.

## CATALOGUE

No.	Ruler	Coin	Reference	Grade	UKE Est.	UKE Sold
120.	Tigranes I	17 Æ, 3 tree 5 standing fig. 10 Nike	CAA 3 CAA 5 CAA 6	P to f	150-200	418
121.	Tigranes II	Tetradrachm	CAA 20	VF	400-500	1100
122.		Tetradrachm	CAA 20	VF+	400-500	1210
123.		Tetradrachm	CAA 20	F+/VF	200-300	308
124.		Tetradrachm	CAA 20	F+/VF	200-300	330
125.		Tetradrachm	CAA 20	F+	150-300	220
126.		Tetradrachm	CAA 20	VF+	500-600	550
127.		Tetradrachm	CAA 35/41	VF/VF+	400-500	484
128.		Tetradrachm	CAA 35/41	-VF	250-300	242
129.		Tetradrachm	CAA 35/41	F+	150-200	308
130.		Tetradrachm	CAA 35/41	VF	200-300	352
131.		Tetradrachm	CAA 35/41	F+	200-250	550
132.		Tetradrachm	CAA 17	VF+/VF	500-600	990
133.		Tetradrachm	CAA 17	VF	250-300	1155
134.		Tetradrachm	CAA 17/30	VF	250-300	484
135.		Tetradrachm	CAA 17	F/VF	150-200	682
136.		Tetradrachm	CAA 37	VF	250-300	682
137.		Tetradrachm	CAA 17/30	VF	350-450	440
138.		Tetradrachm	CAA 19/34	-VF	250-300	308
139.		Tetradrachm	CAA 19/34	-VF	200-250	462
140.		Tetradrachm	CAA 19/34	-VF	200-250	374
141.		Tetradrachm	CAA 21	F+	250-300	506
--A.		Tetradrachm	CAA 21	F+	250-300	396
--B.		Tetradrachm	CAA 21	F/F+	200-250	682
--C.		Tetradrachm	CAA 21	F/VF	250-300	550
--D.		Tetradrachm	CAA 21	F	150-200	308
142.		Tetradrachm	CAA 31/32	-VF	200-350	374
143.		Tetradrachm	CAA 23	-VF	250-300	396
144.		Tetradrachm	CAA --	VF/F+	300-350	572
145.		2 Tetradrachms	CAA 20	F+	200-250	396
146.		2 Tetradrachms	CAA 20	F+	150-200	396
147.		2 Tetradrachms	CAA 35, 17	F	200-250	440
148.		3 Tetradrachms	CAA 17, 19	fair	200-250	374
149.		3 Tetradrachms	CAA 17	F	150-200	352
150.		3, 2 drch, 1 pltd	CAA 17	f/F	150-200	440
151.		Tetradrachm	CAA 24	VF+	500-600	1,210
152.		Drachm	CAA 52	F+/VF	200-250	902
153.		Drachm	CAA 61	VF	250-300	660
154.		Drachm	CAA 68	F	150-200	638
155.		Drachm	CAA 68	F+	150-200	660
156.		Drachm	CAA 76	VF	200-250	682
157.	Tigranes II	3 Æ, 2 elephant 1 Nike	CAA 143 CAA 145	F+	60-80	352
158.		10 Æ, 4 elephant 2 horse, ? Nike ? lion's head	CAA 143 CAA 144,5 CAA 146	F to fair	60-80	572
159.		17 Æ, 8 elephant 7 horse, 3 Nike	CAA 143 CAA 144,5	fair	60-80	352
160.		26 Æ, 16 Antioch Tyche 5 o/s, 3 c/m, 8? 10 others	CAA 92, 94 CAA 108	fair to F and -VF	200-250	440

No.	Ruler	Coin	Reference	Grade	UK£ Est.	UK£ Sold
161.	Tigranes II (cont.)	20 Æ Ant. Tyche	CAA 91-3, 5	f to F	120-150	132
162.		19 Æ Ant. Tyche	CAA 91-5	F to VF	200-250	286
163.		22 Æ Ant. Tyche 15 c/m, 5 o/s, 2?	CAA 92	f	80-100	99
164.		64 Æ Ant. Tyche	CAA 92	G to f	120-180	176
165.		70 Æ Ant. Tyche	CAA 92	G to f	150-200	209
166.		80 Æ Ant. Tyche	CAA 92	G to f	160-220	132
167.		15 Æ Heracles	CAA 100-1	f to F+	150-200	242
168.		40 Æ Heracles	CAA 100	f	80-120	121
169.		45 Æ Heracles	CAA 100-1	f to F	80-120	154
170.		5 Æ Cornucopiae	CAA 104-6	F+ to VF	60-80	242
171.		25 Æ Cornucopiae	CAA 104-6	f to F	60-80	88
172.		38 Æ Cornucopiae	CAA 104-6	f	80-120	88
173.		20 Æ Ear of corn	CAA 107	f	50-60	88
174.		Æ Quadriga	Foss j	F	80-100	462
175.		8 Æ Damascus 4 Tyche std 3 Tyche stdng 1 Antioch Tyche	CAA 109-10 CAA 112 CAA 108 CAA 114	f to -VF F	120-150 80-120	572 132
176.	Artavasdes II	15 Æ Nike	CAA 115, 7	f, F	80-120	121
177.		16 Æ Nike	CAA 114-5	f to F	100-150	138
178.		33 Æ Nike	CAA 115	f	100-150	121
179.		65 Æ Nike	CAA 119,—	f	50-60	77
180.		6 Æ Nike	CAA 119-20	G to f	80-100	66
181.		30 Æ Nike	CAA 120	f to F	100-150	132
182.		39 Æ Nike	CAA 120	f	100-120	132
183.		50 Æ Nike	CAA 121	f to F	100-120	110
184.		36 Æ Palm-brnch	CAA 122	f to F+	50-60	110
185.		7 Æ Tripod	Foss v	f to F	60-80	682
186.		8 Æ Horse	CAA 115	F to F+	150-200	352
187.		10 Æ Nike	CAA 132	f to F	150-200	770
188.		6 Æ Nike	CAA 132	f	100-150	374
189.		6 Æ Nike	CAA 132	P	100-150	99
190.		7 Æ Nike	CAA 135	VF	100-150	330
191.	Artaxias II	Æ Ear of corn	CAA 135	G to -F	200-300	286
192.		7 Æ Ear of corn	CAA 136	G to F	200-300	550
193.		6 Æ Nike	CAA 136	G to f	150-250	264
194.		7 Æ Nike	CAA 138	-f	150-250	198
195.		9 Æ Dove?	CAA 141	-F, f	100-150	440
196.		2 Æ Biga	CAA 148	-F to f	150-200	462
197.		3 Æ Nike	CAA 149	f	50-60	88
198.		2 Æ Nike	CAA 150	f to F	150-200	352
199.		4 Æ Elephant	CAA 150	G	100-150	187
200.		8 Æ Elephant	CAA 153	F	100-150	374
201.		Æ Heracles	CAA 153-4	P to -F	200-250	352
202.		4 Æ Heracles	CAA 155-6	G to f	100-150	132
203.		9 Æ Eagle	CAA 158	Rev F	100-150	418
204.		Æ Club	CAA 160	G to f	100-150	330
205.	Artavasdes III	6 Æ Athena	CAA 162	f to F	200-250	715
206.		6 Æ Female std	CAA 162	G to f	120-150	264
207.		12 Æ Female std	CSC 5, 2	f to F	200-300	462
208.		6 Æ Equestrian	CSC 6	f to -F	90-120	242
209.		3 Æ Equestrian	CSC 5, ?	f	100-150	176
210.		6 Æ Equestrian Nike, club				

No.	Ruler	Coin	Reference	Grade	UK£ Est.	UK£ Sold
211.	Abdissares	Æ Eagle	CSC 16	F	100-150	308
212.	Mithr. Callinicus	Æ Athena	CSC 20	F	60-80	286
213.		3 Æ Club	BMC p 102-1	f	150-200	132
214.	Uncertain king	Æ Spear, sickle	—	F+	100-150	176
215.	Antiochus I	8 Æ Lion of Com.	CSC 25	F to G	80-120	88
216.	Related material	49 AR, Æ	—	P	100-150	220
217.	Hatra	7 Æ Eagle	Slocum 22	f to F	60-80	—
218.	Edessa	39 Æ Abgar VIII X, 1 Cappadocia	—	f to F	120-150	121
219.	Ayyubids	49 Æ Dirhems	Mitch 868	f to F	150-200	132
220.		12 AR Ddirhems	—	F	60-80	110
221.	Roman Armenia	AR Lucius Verus	Milne 2519	F+	60-80	99
222.		14 AR Nero, M. Aurelius, Luc. Verus, Severus	RPC 3644	—	200-250	682
223.		9 Æ M. Aurelius, L. Verus, Sohe- mus, Byzantine	RIC 890 RIC 1371 RIC 1364	F to F+	100-150	198
224.	Gosdantin (baron)	Æ	CCA 1	F	250-300	286
225.		Æ	CCA 1	F	250-300	682
226.		2 Æ	CCA 1	f	200-250	220
227.		3 Æ	CCA 1	P to f	200-250	198
228.		3 Æ	CCA 1	P to f	200-250	—
229.		4 Æ, 1p (pierced)	CCA 1	P	150-200	—
230.	Toros I	Æ	CCA 2a	f to F	300-400	352
231.		Æ	CCA 2a	f	250-300	352
232.	Toros II	Æ	CCA 3	f	400-500	660
233.	Levon II	Æ	CCA 4	f	200-250	418
234.		Æ	CCA 4	f	200-250	440
235.		Æ	CCA 4	f	200-250	462
236.		Æ	CCA 4	F	350-400	715
237.		Æ	CCA 4	f	200-250	462
238.		2 Æ	CCA 4	f	300-400	462
239.	Levon I (king)	AR Double tram	CCA 24V	VF	200-250	682
240.		AR Double tram	CCA 24	VF	200-250	858
241.		AR Double tram	CCA 22	F+	180-220	1012
242.		AR Double tram	CCA 24	F+	180-220	1155
243.		AR Double tram	CCA 23	VF	200-250	1265
244.		AR Double tram	CCA 23	F+	180-220	1320
245.		AR Double tram	CCA 23	F	180-220	1540
246.		AR Double tram	CCA 28	VF	250-300	605
247.		AR Double tram	CCA 13	EF	250-300	495
248.		6 AR 1/2 Dble trm	CCA 44	VF to f	200-250	495
249.		4 AR 1/2 Dble trm	CA 41, 47	VF	180-220	495
250.		4 AR 1/2 Dble trm	CCA 49	VF	150-180	352
251.		AR 1/2 Dble trm L/r.	CCA 67	EF	120-150	308
252.		2AR 1/2 Dble trm L/r.	CCA 66, 67	F, VF+	200-250	286
253.		AR 1 lion cor trm	CCA 77	F	100-120	440
254.		6 AR 2 L cor trm, 1p	CCA 86	F-VF	80-100	374
255.		6 AR 2 L cor trm	CCA ---	F	80-100	242
256.		6 AR 2 L cor trm	CCA ---	F	80-100	198
257.		8 AR 2 L cor trm, 2p	CCA ---	f to F	80-100	242
258.		7 AR trams	CCA 572	VF-EF	200-250	1375
259.		7 AR Trams	CCA 572	F-VF	180-220	330
260.		5 AR trams	CCA 571	f to F	150-180	165

No.	Ruler	Coin	Reference	Grade	UKE Est.	UKE Sold
261.	Levon I (cont.)	10 AR Trams	Met I/A	VF	180-220	—
262.		10 AR Trams	Met I/A,D,E,G	VF	180-220	165
263.		10 AR Trams	Met II/B	VF	180-220	—
264.		10 AR Trams	M II/B,C,E,G	VF	180-220	—
265.		10 AR Trams	Met II/G	VF	180-220	165
266.		14 AR Trams	M II/G,III/C,IV	VF	220-250	—
267.		12 AR, 11 Trams	CCA ---			
		1 half tram p.	CCA 75	P to F	80-100	66
268.		AR Half tram	CCA 71	F	180-220	110
269.		AR Half tram	CCA 72	VF	180-220	121
270.	Hetoum-Kaiqobad	AR Half tram	CCA 75	VF	180-220	187
271.		10 Æ Tanks	CCA 695-70	-VF	160-200	165
272.		12 Æ Tanks	CCA 695-70	-F	150-170	165
273.		25 Æ Tanks	CCA 695-70	f to F	120-150	132
274.		25 Æ Tanks	CCA 695-70	f to F	120-150	88
275.		25 Æ Tanks	CCA 695-70	f to F	120-150	143
276.		36 Æ Tanks, 14 p.	CCA 695-70	P to F	60-80	55
277.		2 AR Trams	CCA 776	VF, F	100-120	187
278.		5 AR Trams, 2p.	CCA 776, 78	-F	100-120	165
279.	Hetoum-Kaikhusr.	AR Tram	CCA 786	VF	100-120	132
280.		AR Tram	CCA 786	F+	80-100	99
281.		2 AR Trams	CCA 814, 27	VF+	100-120	176
282.		3 AR Trams	CCA 814, 5	VF	110-130	176
283.		6 AR Trams, 1 p.	CCA 807,15,21	F-VF	120-150	176
284.		6 AR Trams	Bed grp I	VF-EF	120-150	88
285.		7 AR Trams	Bed grp II	F to VF+	120-150	—
286.		6 AR Trams	B. g. III, IV	VF+	120-150	—
287.		9 AR Trams, 3 p.	B. g. III, IV	F to VF	100-120	—
288.		6 AR Trams	B. g. III, IV	VF+	120-150	—
289.	Hetoum-Zabel	9 AR Trams	B. g. III, IV	F+ to VF	120-150	88
290.		7 AR Trams	B. g. V-VII	VF	120-150	88
291.		AR Half tram	CCA 1274	VF	150-180	374
292.		AR Half tram, p.	CCA 1276	VF	80-100	55
293.		AR Half tram	CCA 1279	F	120-150	715
294.		AR Half tram	CCA 1279	EF	100-120	132
295.		AR Half tram	CCA 1280	-VF	120-150	176
296.		AR Half tram	CCA 1283-4	F	120-150	110
297.		AR Half tram	CCA 1283	F	120-150	110
298.		AR Half tram	CCA 1284	F	150-180	176
299.	Hetoum I	AR Half tram	CCA 1284	f to F	80-100	—
300.		AR Half tram, p.	CCA 1284a	F	60-80	—
301.		AR Half tram	CCA 1288-9	VF	150-180	264
302.		AR Half tram	CCA 1291	F	120-150	187
303.		AR Half tram	CCA 1291	F	120-150	110
304.		11 Æ Tanks	C 1235,304,21,2 24,41,43-4,53v	F-VF	180-220	264
305.		25 Æ Tanks	CCA 1235-364	-f	120-150	88
306.		25 Æ Tanks	CCA 1235-364	-f	120-150	110
307.		25 Æ Tanks	CCA 1235-364	-f	120-150	132
308.		50 Æ Tanks	CCA 1235-364	P to f	100-120	88
309.	Hetoum I	77 Æ Tanks, 7 p.	CCA 1235-364	P to f	100-120	—
310.		10 Æ Kardez, eqst	CCA 1365,7,70,4	f to F	120-150	231
311.		25 Æ Kardez, eqst	CCA 1365-82	f	120-150	—
312.		25 Æ Krdz, eqst, lp	CCA 1365-82	f	120-150	—
313.		25 Æ Kardez, eqst	CCA 1365-82	f	120-150	—



No.	Ruler	Coin	Reference	Grade	UK£ Est.	UK£ Sold
314.	Hetoum I (cont.)	65 Æ Krdz, eqst, 5p	CCA 1355-92	P	100-120	—
315.		10 Æ Kardez, std.	CCA 1333-404	-F	150-180	110
316.		11 Æ Krdz, std, 1p	CCA 1333-404	f to F	150-180	—
317.		25 Æ Kardez, std.	CCA 1333-404	-f	120-150	—
318.		25 Æ Kardez, std.	CCA 1333-404	-f	120-150	—
319.		25 Æ Kardez, std.	CCA 1333-404	-f	120-150	—
320.		25 Æ Kardez, std.	CCA 1333-404	-f	120-150	—
321.		55 Æ Kardez, std.	CCA 1333-404	P	80-100	—
322.		10 Æ Krdz, std, 1p	CCA 1406-20	f to F	150-180	—
323.		25 Æ Kardez, std.	CCA 1405-20	-f	120-150	—
324.		47 Æ Kardez, std.	CCA 1405-20	P to f	80-100	—
325.	Levon II	AR H-Z type tram	CCA 1424	VF+	180-220	1210
326.		AR H-Z type tram	CCA 1427	VF	150-180	264
327.		AR H-Z type tram	CCA 1427	F+	120-150	286
328.		AR Tram	CCA 1429	VF	80-100	99
329.		AR Tram	CCA 1429	VF	80-100	110
330.		AR Tram	CCA 1437	VF	80-100	330
331.		6 AR Trams	CCA 1430-62	f to F	120-150	165
332.		6 AR Trams, 4p.	CCA 1460-82	VF to f	100-120	—
333.		3 AR Trams	CCA 1484-98	F	100-120	88
334.		4 AR Trams	CCA 1491-03	F	120-150	143
335.		6 AR Trams, 1p.	CCA 1498-16	F to f	100-120	88
336.		7 AR Trams, 1p.	CCA 1491-13	P to F	100-120	88
337.		AR Half tram	CCA 1524	VF	90-110	330
338.		AR Half tram	CCA 1531	F+	80-100	132
339.		2 AR Half trams	CCA 1529,30	F	120-150	264
340.		AR Half tram	CA —	VF	100-120	220
341.		AR Half tram	CCA 1537	F+	80-100	132
342.		4 AR Half trams	CCA 1429-35	f	120-150	110
343.		18 Æ Kardezzes	CCA 1440-58	P to f	80-100	88
344.		11 Æ Kardezzes	CCA 1449-69	f	100-120	—
345.		25 Æ Kardezzes	CCA 1449-69	f	100-120	—
346.		30 Æ Kardezzes	CCA 1449-69	P to f	60-80	110
347.		43 Æ Kardez, 1p.	CCA 1449-69	P	60-80	—
348.		4 Æ Kardezzes	CCA 1573	P to f	80-100	—
349.	Hetoum II	2 AR Billons	CCA 1575-7	F-VF	120-150	99
350.		3 AR Billons	CCA 1583	F-VF	180-220	165
351.		2 AR Billons	CCA 1585-6	VF	150-180	209
352.		4 AR Billons	CCA 1575a,65	F	120-150	165
353.		25 Æ Kardez, hd.	CCA 1589-99	f	150-180	—
354.		25 Æ Kardez, hd.	CCA 1600-8	f	150-180	—
355.		25 Æ Kardez, hd.	CCA 1589-612	f	150-180	—
356.		59 Æ Kardez, hd.	CCA —	P to f	120-150	—
357.		61 Æ Kardez, hd	CCA —	P to f	120-150	—
358.		25 Æ Kardez, std.	CCA —	f to F	120-150	—
359.		25 Æ Kardez, std.	CCA —	f to F	120-150	—
360.		25 Æ Kardez, std.	CCA —	f to F	120-150	—
361.		25 Æ Kardez, std.	CCA —	f to F	120-150	—
362.		24 Æ Kardez, std.	CCA —	f	120-150	—
363.		46 Æ Kardez, std.	CCA —	P to f	80-100	—
364.		51 Æ Kardez, std.	CCA —	P to f	80-100	—
365.	Smpad	AR Tram	CCA 1653	VF+	220-260	1375
366.		AR Tram	CCA 1653a	VF+	180-220	286
367.		3 AR Trams	CCA 1653a	F to VF	180-220	1485
368.		3 AR Trams	CCA 1653a	F to VF	180-220	1430

No.	Ruler	Coin	Reference	Grade	UK£ Est.	UK£ Sold
369.	Smpad (cont.)	3 AR Trams	CCA 1653av,5v	F to VF	180-220	715
370.		3 AR Trams	CCA 1653av	F to VF	220-260	660
371.		3 AR Trams	CCA 1653a	F to VF	180-220	462
372.		3 AR Trams	CCA 1653a	F to VF	180-220	220
373.		3 AR Trams	CCA 1653a,b,4	F to VF	180-220	286
374.		4 AR Trams	CCA 1653,6,7v	F	180-220	330
375.		AR Tram	CCA ---	F+	220-260	286
376.		AR Tram	CCA ---	VF	220-260	286
377.		3 AR Trams	CCA ---	F	100-120	176
378.		3 AR Trams	CCA 1661-4	F	100-120	88
379.		4 AR Trams	CCA 1661-8	F	120-150	121
380.		4 AR Trams	CCA 1668-73	F	120-150	132
381.		4 AR Trams	CCA 1674-6	F	120-150	132
382.		6 AR Trams	CCA 1669-74v	F	120-150	121
383.		6 AR Trams	CCA 1661-74	f-F	120-150	110
384.		6 AR Trams	CCA ---	-F	100-120	—
385.		7 AR Trams	CCA ---	-F	100-120	—
386.		20 Æ Kardezzes	CCA 1678-722	f	120-150	—
387.		20 Æ Kardezzes	CCA 1678-722	f	120-150	—
388.		40 Æ Kardezzes	CCA 1678-722	P to f	80-100	55
389.		61 Æ Kardezzes	CCA 1678-722	P	80-100	66
390.		65 Æ Kardezzes	CCA 1678-722	P	80-100	66
391.	Gosdantin	Æ Kardez	CCA 1728	f	80-100	88
392.		Æ Kardez	CCA 1730	-F	100-120	154
393.		Æ Kardez	CCA 1730	-F	100-120	121
394.		Æ Kardez	CCA 1730	F	80-100	—
395.		Æ Kardez	CCA 1732	f	60-80	55
396.		Æ Kardez	CCA 1732	f	60-80	55
397.		3 Æ Kardezzes	CCA 1728, 32	P to f	80-100	—
398.		3 Æ Kardezzes	CCA ---	f	80-100	121
399.		4 Æ Kardezzes, 1p	CCA ---	P to f	60-80	—
400.	Levon III	6 AR Takvorins	CCA 1734-41	f to F	100-120	154
401.		6 AR Takvorins	CCA 1741-3	f to F	100-120	132
402.		6 AR Takv., 1p.	CCA 1776-90	f to F	100-120	—
403.		2 AR Takvorins	CCA 1746,74	VF, F	100-120	264
404.		6 AR Takvorins	CCA 1746-74	f to F	80-100	55
405.		14 AR Takv., 1p.	CCA ---	f	100-120	—
406.		15 Æ Kardezzes	CCA ---	f to F	150-180	—
407.		15 Æ Kardezzes	CCA ---	f to F	150-180	110
408.		40 Æ Kardezzes	CCA 1807-39	f	80-100	110
409.		40 Æ Kardezzes	CCA 1807-39	f	80-100	110
410.	Oshin	40 Æ Kardezzes	CCA 1807-39	f	80-100	99
411.		109 Æ Kardezzes	CCA 1807-39	P to f	100-120	99
412.		2 AR Coron. trms	CCA 1840-1	VF+	180-220	352
413.		2 AR Coron. trms	CCA 1845	VF+	180-220	352
414.		3 AR Coron. trms	CCA 1843-7	VF+	180-220	308
415.		3 AR Coron. trms	CCA 1843-7	VF	180-220	286
416.		5 AR Coron. trms	CCA 1843,5	F	180-220	286
417.		9 AR Takv. 3p.	CCA 1864-88	f to F	120-150	—
418.		10 AR Takvorins	CCA 1923-32	f to F	140-160	—
419.		17 AR Takv., 2p.	CCA ---	f to F	150-180	—
420.		22 Æ Poghs	CCA 1936a-45a	f	120-150	—
421.		22 Æ Poghs	CCA 1936a-45a	f	120-150	110
422.		38 Æ Poghs	CCA 1936a-45a	P to f	60-80	—
423.		6 AR Tkv o/s Arb	CCA 1946-7	F	80-100	110

No.	Ruler	Coin	Reference	Grade	UK£ Est.	UK£ Sold
424.	Levon IV	12 AR Takvorins	CCA 1949-68	f to F	120-150	—
425.		14 AR Takvorins	CCA 1949-68	f to F	150-180	—
426.		11 AR Takvorins	CCA 1955-70	f to F	100-120	—
427.		14 AR Takvorins	CCA 1945-70	f to F	120-150	—
428.		20 AR Takvorins	CCA ---	f to F	150-180	—
429.		14 AR Takvorins	CCA 1960-91	f to F	120-150	—
430.		24 AR Takvorins	CCA ---	f	120-150	—
431.		20 AR Takvorins	CCA ---	f	80-100	—
432.		2 AR Takv. L/left	CCA 1994,5	P,F	100-120	121
433.		27 AR Takv. 3p.	CCA ---	f	100-120	—
434.		10 Æ Large pogs	CCA 1999-2001	f to F	120-150	88
435.		12 Æ L. pogs, 1p.	CCA 2002	P to F	60-80	88
436.		23 Æ Pogs	CCA 2005-16	f	120-150	—
437.		20 Æ Pogs	CCA 2017-27	f	120-150	—
438.		28 Æ Pogs	CCA 2017-27	P to f	60-80	—
439.		10 AR Tk v o/s Arb	CCA 2027-8	F	150-180	—
440.		13 AR Tk v o/s Arb	CCA 2027-8	F	180-220	—
441.		17 AR Tk v o/s Arb	CCA 2027-8	f to F	150-180	—
442.		20 AR Tk v o/s Arb	CCA 2027-8	f	120-150	—
443.		23 AR T o/s Arb, 7p	CCA 2027-8	P to f	80-100	—
444.	Guy	2 AR Takvorins	CCA 2030-33	F	120-150	176
445.		2 AR Takvorins	CCA 2034	F	120-150	110
446.		3 AR Takv., 1p.	CCA 2030-33	-F	120-150	—
447.	Gosdantin III	6 AR Takv., 1p.	CCA2034-7	f to F	120-150	—
448.		AR Takv. Tarsus	CCA 2043	F	100-120	132
449.		2 AR Tk v Tarsus	CCA 2044-5	f to F	120-140	88
450.		5 AR Takv., Sis	CCA 2051-78	f to F	80-100	—
451.		6 AR Takv., Sis	CCA 2057-2113	f to F	80-100	—
452.		14 AR Tk v Sis, 2p	CCA ---	f	80-100	—
453.	Levon the Usurper	12 AR Takv., Sis	CCA 2121-23	P to f	60-80	—
454.		AR Tk v. o/s Arb	CCA ---	VF	120-150	154
455.		7 AR Takv., 1p.	CCA 2129-44	f to F	120-150	—
456.		6 AR Takvorins	CCA 2142-51	f to F	120-150	—
457.		6 AR Takvorins	CCA 2142-63	f to F	120-150	88
458.		4 AR Takvorins	CCA ---	-F	120-150	121
459.		6 AR Takvorins	CCA ---	f to F	80-100	55
460.		8 AR Takv., 1p.	CCA ---	P to f	80-100	55
461.		6 AR Takvorins	CCA 2171-2214	f to F	120-150	—
462.	Gosdantin IV	5 AR Takvorins	CCA 2174-2213	f to F	100-120	77
463.		9 AR Takvorins	CCA ---	f to F	120-150	—
464.		6 AR Takvorins	CCA 2174,—	-F	120-150	—
465.		20 AR Takv., 4p.	CCA ---	f	100-120	—
466.		28 AR Takv., 2p.	CCA ---	P to f	120-150	—
467.		6 Æ Pogs	CCA 2217-35	f to F	120-150	88
468.		17 Æ Pgh w/tkv die	CCA ---	P	120-150	—
469.	Levon V	AR Billon	CCA ---	VF	150-180	605
470.		AR Billon	CCA 2241	F	60-80	77
471.		2 AR Billons	CCA 2238	F	120-150	88
472.		6 AR Billons	CCA ---	P to f	80-100	—
473.		16 Æ Pogs	CCA 2242-5	f	150-180	—
474.		15 Æ Pogs	CCA 2242-4	f	100-120	—
475.		21 Æ Pogs, 1p.	CCA 2242-4	P to f	60-80	—
476.		13 Æ Takv. type	CCA 2247	P to F	120-150	176
477.		Miscellaneous	CCA ---	P to f	200-250	176
478.	Antioch	26 Æ	—	P to F	150-200	209

## ՓՐՈՖ. ԱՍԳԵՏ ՏՕՆԱՊԵՏԵԱՆԻ ՀԱՅԿԱԿԱՆ ԴՐԱՄՆԵՐՈՒՆ ԱՃՈՒՐԴԸ

[Ամփոփում]

Լուսաֆոփ Փրոֆ. Ասպետ Տօնապետեանի հայկական դրամագիտական ժողովածոն, աշխարհի մեծագոյներէն մին, կազմուած էր դրամները ուսումնասիրելու նպատակով: Ռուբինեան դրամներէն շատ մեծ թիւով օրինակներ օգտագործուեցան Դոկտ. Ջաքարի Գոտուկեանի կողմէ կազմելու իր աշխարհագրական կիլիկեան Հայաստանի դրամները քանասիրութեան կորպուսը: Լոս Անճելըսի մէջ իբրև մտերիմ քարեկամ, Ասպետ իմացուց թէ ծրագրած է ուսումնասիրել իր դրամները, ինչպէս նաև ատենը մէջի դրամագիտները, ու գրել մի քանի գիրքեր: Դժբախտաբար երկար չապրեցաւ իր երազները իրականացնելու համար: Իր ժողովածոյին Լոս Անճելըս հասնելէն առաջ ինկաւ կաթուածահար ու հեռացաւ այն աշխարհէն: (Դամաբանականներուն համար տե՛ս Հայ Դրամագիտական Հանդէս, 1993, էջ 59-60:)

Ասպետի դրամագիտական հասարածոն կազմուած էր Դեյրիթ, Լիբանան: Իր Լոս Անճելըս հաստատուելէն ետք, իր ժողովածոն իրեն հետնեցաւ և ճամբորդեց մինչև Լոնդոն: Ասպետի մահէն ետք, իր ընտանիքը որոշեց վաճառել դրամները աճուրդի միջոցաւ և յաճճենց զանոց Լոնդոնի դասական դրամ վաճառող Սփինք հաստատութեանը:

Ասպետի ժողովածոն ունէր քազմաթիւ հագուագիտ դրամներ: Ամենէն աւելի՝ ժողովածոն հասալքոյ մըն էր դրամագիտներու (Տիգրան Բ-ի չորեքդարանեաններ և բրոնզներ, Սմբատի դրամներ, Օշինի օծման դրամներ և այլն): Ժողովածոյի 4552 դրամները ժամնաւ էին 359 խումբերու (120-478), զոր կը պարունակէր Արտաշէսեան հարստութեան, Մովսէի և Կոմմագենէի հայկական թագաւորութեանց, Հայաստանի վերաբերեալ հոռութեամբ ու իսլամական, Մոնտիսի ու ապա Կիլիկեան Հայաստանի դրամներ: Մի քանի ուշագրաւ դրամներ. Տիգրան Ա-ի բրոնզէ դրամներ (17 կտոր), Տիգրան Բ-ի չորեքդարանեան (44) ու դրախմա (5) և 38 բրոնզէ դրամներու խումբեր (800 կտորէ աւելի), Արտաւազդ Բ-ի բրոնզներու 6 խումբեր (27), Արտաշէս Բ (13), Տիգրան Գ (41), Տիգրան Դ (31), Արտաւազդ Գ (6), Տիգրան Դ և Նրատը (18), Մովսէ և Կոմմագենէի բրոնզներ, Ռուբինեան իշխաններու բրոնզներ (24), Լևոն Ա-ի երկդրամ (9) ու կիսադրամ (3) և մի առիթով օծման դրամ (1), Հեթում-Ջապելի կիսադրամ (13), Լևոն Բ-ի Լախա-օծման դրամ (3) ու կիսադրամ (11), Հեթում Բ-ի բիլլոն (11), Սմբատի օծման ու պարզ դրամներ (72), Կոստանդին Ա-ի քարտէզ (16), Օշինի օծման դրամ (15), Կոստանդին Գ-ի թագաւորի կոխուած Տարսուն (3) և արաբերէնով կրկնարդշման թագաւորին մը, Լևոն Ե-ի բիլլոն (10) և փող (52):

Ժողովածոն մեծ էր աճուրդի մը համար: Ֆիզիքական տեսակետով՝ գործնական ու շահաւէտ չէր նկարել բոլոր դրամները ու կատալոգին մէջ տպել, երբ կարգ մը դրամներ մի քանի փաւոնտ գնահատուած էին իրենց ցած որակին պատճառով: Միւս կողմէ թրջակցութեամբ աճուրդին մասնակցողները իմաստութեամբ չէին կրնար գին առաջարկել քանի որ փոքրամասնութեամբ նկարուած էր կամ մանրամասնութեամբ նկարագրուած ցուցակագրոյին կողմէ:

Թէև 96 գեղատիպ նկարներ կային, սակայն ասոնց 34-ը տրուած էին Տիգրան Մեծի չորեք-դրամեաններուն ու դրախմաներուն: Մնացեալ 62 նկարները կը պատկանէին 4518 կտոր դրամներուն: Դրամագիտական աճուրդներ մեծ կելոյով իմաստալից են իրենց պարունակութեան պատճառով: Դժուարամատչելի ու հագուագիտ դրամներ կրնան ձեռք բերուիլ դրամահաւաքներու կամ թանգարաններու կողմէ աճուրդներու ընթացքին: Դրամագետներու համար նման աճուրդներ մեծ կորուստ կը ներկայացնեն, քանի որ ժողովածոյի մը դրամագիտները չափու կը ցրուին և խումբերը երբեք չեն կրնար վերակազմուիլ: Ենտ այսու Տօնապետեանի ժողովածոյին դրամագիտները ուսումնասիրութեան սահմանէն աճողին կը մնան քանակներէրու համար: Տօնապետեանի ժողովածոն հիմա տարածուած է աշխարհի ամեն կողմը և դրամագետներ՝ իբրև տեղեկագրութիւն իր դրամներուն, ունին միայն Սփինքի թիւ 102 կամ «Արմենիա» մակդիրով որակուած կատալոգին մէջի իր դրամներուն դասաւորութիւնը:

Սփինքի թիւ 102 աճուրդը սկսաւ Լոնդոնի մէջ, 2 Մարտ 1994-ին, առաւօտեան ժամը 10:00-ին: Ժամը 10:45-ին կարգը հասած էր Տօնապետեանի դրամներուն: Ողջ հագուագիտ և ընտիր դրամներ բերին աճկակալածէն շատ աւելի գնահատում: Ժողովածոն կ'ակնկալուի ծախսուիլ 50,000-65,000 փաւոնտի: Աճուրդի ընթացքին շուրջ ինիսուն խումբեր ծախսուեցան: Ծախսուեցողը գնահատուեցաւ 86,000 փաւոնտի շուրջ: Ապա մնացեաներն ալ ծախսուեցան այլ անհատներու:

Տօնապետեանի աճուրդը վերջացաւ կէսօրէ ետք ժամը 1:50-ին: Երեք ժամուան ընթացքին Ասպետին հայկական դրամները տարածուեցան աշխարհի չորդ գին գտնուող դրամահաւաքներուն՝ սա իմ քարեկամ Ասպետին յուղարկաւորութեան վերջին ծէան էր:

Ե. Թ. ՆԵՐՍԷՍԵԱՆ





## ՄԵԴԱԼԱԳՈՐԾ ԶԱՒԷՆ ՂԱՐԱՌԱՆԵԱՆԸ

Հայկական մեդալների վաղագույն օրինակները ստեղծուեցին 17-րդ դարի երկրորդ կէսին և մինչև արդի ժամանակները զարգանում են երկու ուղղությամբ՝ Հայաստանում և սփիւռքում (տարբեր երկրների հայաշատ վայրերում)։ Մյուր հայրենիքում պատմութեան ընթացքը ունեցաւ այնպիսի զարգացում, որ մեդալային արուեստը այսօրի սկզբնաւորուեց աւելի ուշ քան սփիւռքի զաղթաւայրերում։ Շուրջ երկու տասնեակ երկրներ հայաշատ վայրերում պատրաստուել են մեդալներ, որոնք, անկասկած, կրելով տեղի մեդալային արուեստի տարբեր դպրոցներին անմիջական ազդեցութիւնը և առանձնայատկութիւնները, թեմաների ընտրութեամբ, կատարման ոճով, գրութիւններով և այլն մնում են ինքնատիպ և առանձնանալով տեղի արուեստի ամբողջականութիւնից, դառնում են տուեալ զաղթօջախի ներքին իւրովի վաւերազրական սկզբնաղբիւր։

Եթէ սկզբնական շրջանում լիշեալ մեդալները դուրս չէին գալիս տուեալ զաղթօջախի շրջանակներից, ապա վերջին երկու-երեք տասնամեակների ընթացքում այդ մեդալներից շատերը անմիջականօրէն արձագանքում են հայ իրականութեան նշանաւոր իրադարձութիւններին, ստանալով համահայկական նշեղութիւն։

Իւրաքանչիւր զաղթավայրի մեդալային արուեստը ունեցել է զարգացման իւրովի ընթացք ևս երկրներ, որտեղ այս արուեստը ունեցել է մեծ տարածում և նրանց պատրաստումը դարձել է աւանդական։ Միևնեւրո՞ւմ ստեղծուել են առիթից-առիթ, առանձին խանդավառների նախաձեռնութեամբ։

Իրանահայ զաղթավայրերում մեդալային արուեստի զարգացումը հնաւանդ է, չնայած այն թողարկւում է մեծ ընդհատումներով և քանակապէս էլ ոչ այնքան շատ և տարածուած։ Այդ պատճառով իւրաքանչիւր նոր մեդալի կամ նոր մեդալագործ-արուեստագէտի յայտ գալը յիշատի յայտնութիւն է հայկական մեդալային արուեստը ամբողջական ներկայացնելու համար։

Զաւեն Ղարախանեանը մեդալները քանակով շատ չեն և ստեղծուել են արւեստագէտի նախաձեռնութեամբ։ Վաղագույն օրինակը մեդալագործը պատրաստել է 1881 թ., նուիրելով այն Իրանի հնագոյն հայկական պարբերական Ալիք թերթի հիմնադրման 50-ամեակին (Նկար 1)։

Մեդալի առաջին երեսը ունի գրութիւն՝ «50-ԱՒԻՔ»։ Երկրորդ երեսի դաշտի կենտրոնում «50», որի վերևում «ԱՒԻՔ», ներքևում «ԱՄԵԱԿ», ինչպէս և յորեմանակալն թուականներ՝ «1831-1881»։ Ան դրուագուել է արծաթից և պղնձից (ոսկեբրոնզ), տրամագիծը՝ 30 մմ։

1885 թ. Զ. Ղարախանեանը ստեղծել է երկու մեդալ՝ Նրանցից մէկը նուիրուած է Հայաստանի Հանրապետութեան հռչակմանը (1918 թ. Մայիսի 28)։ Մի երեսի վրայ պատկերուած է Հայաստանի Հանրապետութեան զինանշանը, իսկ երկրորդին՝ Հայ Յեղափոխական Դաշնակցութիւն կուսակցութեան զինանշանը, որի վերևում «Հ.Ե.Դ.», ներքևում «1890»։ Մեդալը դրուագուել է թեւհրանում, արծաթից, տրամագիծը 30 մմ (Նկար 2)։

Միւս մեդալը նուիրուած է հայ անուանի գրող Բաժմու ծննդեան 150-ամեակին։ Առաջին երեսին պատկերուած է Բաժմու կիսանդրին, կիսաթէք դէպի աջ (Նկար 3)։ Երկրորդ երեսին՝ վարդեակ, որի տակ Բաժմու «Ձայն տուր ու՛ր ծովակ» ստեղծագործութիւնից մի հատուած։

ԱՐԴԵՕՔ ԳԱՌԱՒԷ ՄԻ ՕՐ ԺԱՄԱՆԱԿ  
ՏԵՄԵՆԼ ՄԱՍՄԻ ԳԼԽԻՆ ՄԻ ԴՐՕՇԱԿ  
ԵՒ ԱՄԼԷ ԿՈՂՄԵՑ ՊԱՆԴՈՒՆԻՏ ՀԱՅԱԶԳԻՔ  
ԴԻՄԵՆ ԴԷՊ ԻՐԵՆԵՑ ՍԻՐՈՒՆ ՀԱՅՐԵՆԻՔ

Ներքևում դրուագուած է մեդալագործի անունը «ԶԱԽԷՆ»։ Այն արծաթից է, տրամագիծը 35 մմ, դրուագուել է թեւհրանում։ Ընդամէնը երկու օրինակ պատրաստուել է նաև ոսկուց։

Այնուհետև երկու մեդալ ստեղծուել է 1890 թ. Նրանցից մէկը նուիրուած է Հայ Յեղափոխական Դաշնակցութիւն կուսակցութեան հիմնադրման 100-ամեակին։ Մեդալի առաջին կողմին պատկերուած է կուսակցութեան զինանշանը և գրութիւն։ Երկրորդ երեսին՝ «Հ.Ե.Դ.» տառերից միահիւսուած վեպիկ, որը պատկերուած է արծուի գլուխ, վրան կուսակցութեան զինանշանը։ Վեպիկի հեղինակն է Նկարիչ Ս. Սուգազեանը։ Ներքևում եզրով յորեմանական թուականներն են՝ «1890-1890»։ (Նկար 4)։





## AN UNPUBLISHED GOLD COIN OF TIGRANES THE GREAT

Tigranes the Great was one of the most glorious kings of the Armenians. For this reason, the Armenian people revered him, and gave him the title of "Great." Armenian jewelers have copied his coin designs, and executed gold jewelry and medals with his portrait.<sup>1</sup>

Gold coins attributed to Tigranes are kept in museums and private collections. Without exception, they are considered to be modern copies by numismatic scholars who have studied them.<sup>2</sup> Although this writer has not examined any of these personally, he is familiar with a cast specimen prepared in Beirut in the 1970s, modeled after the counterfeit tetradrachm created by Becker the Counterfeiter.<sup>3</sup>

Medallist Zaven Keledjian notified us that in 1950, a gold coin of Tigranes the Great was discovered in Damascus by architect Iskandar Bashura. Hagop Iskanian, an Armenian from Aleppo, hearing about this new find, photographed the gold coin in 1964, which Zaven Keledjian was kind enough to place at our disposal.<sup>4</sup>

- Obv.: Bust of Tigranes with a boyish portrait facing right, clean shaven and wearing ornate five-pointed Armenian tiara. A broad diadem knotted at the back encircles the head and falls downward. Divided drape covers the ear and the neck. The tiara is adorned with an eight-rayed star flanked by two eagles back to back but with their heads turned toward each other. Border of dots.
- Rev.: Tyche of Damascus draped and wearing a five-pointed crown, walking left and facing left. Tyche has her right arm stretched out and holds a veil; in her left arm she holds a cornucopiae full of fruit. Legend to right downward ΒΑΣΙΛΕΥΣ; to left downward ΤΙΓΓΑΝΟΥ.

AV, 18.50 mm, 4.70 grams

Iskantar Bashura collection

### Comments

1. All known coins of Tigranes issued at Damascus have one star, one eagle at right, numerous monograms, and the year of issue according to the Seleucid era. The gold coin under discussion, however, has one star, two eagles, and does not have any monogram or date.
2. The style of the epigraphy resembles coins struck in Damascus, i.e., the I letter is slightly smaller than the Σ letter, E letter is bigger than the Λ letter, N letter does not have completely balanced legs. However, the horizontal dash of letter "A" in the word Tigranes moves up obliquely.
3. The Tyche on the gold piece is similar to the Tyche which appears on some copper coins of Tigranes struck in Damascus.<sup>5</sup> The object on the copper coin being held with right arm is a tiller of a rudder, which does not resemble veil held on the gold piece.
4. On the obverse side of the gold coin there are some flan cracks which cannot be seen from the reverse side.
5. This gold piece is a hybrid design. The obverse resembles coins struck in Antioch whereas the reverse resembles coins of Damascus.

This coin is recorded for posterity without concluding that it is counterfeit or genuine.

Y. T. NERCESSIAN

<sup>1</sup> Y. T. Nercessian, "Armenian Gold Medals Created by Zaven Keledjian," *Armenian Numismatic Journal*, Ser. I, Vol. XIII (June 1987), No. 2, pp. 14-19, pls. I-II.

<sup>2</sup> P. Z. Bedoukian, "Gold Forgeries of Tigranes the Great," *Selected Numismatic Studies* (Los Angeles, 1981), pp. 72-76, reprinted from *ANSMN* Vol. XI (1964), pp. 303-6, pl. XLIX.

<sup>3</sup> G. F. Hill, *Becker the Counterfeiter* (London 1924, Chicago reprint, 1979), Part I, p. 71, pl. VIII, No. 121.

<sup>4</sup> The author would like to express his thanks to Mr. Zaven Keledjian who provided information and a photograph of this gold coin.

<sup>5</sup> E. T. Newell, *Late Seleucid Mints in Ake-Ptolemais and Damascus* (New York, 1939), pl. XVI, No. 152.

## ՏԻԳՐԱՆ ՄԵԾԻ ԱՆՏԻՊ ՈՍԿԵԴՐԱՄ ՄԸ

Տիգրան Մեծ հանդիսացած է հայոց ամենին փառապանծ արքաներէն մին Այս պատճառաւ հայ ժողովուրդը զինք սիրած ու իրեն տուած է «Մեծ» մականորով, Հայ ոսկերիները ընդօրինակած են իր դրամներուն պակերատիպերը ու կերտած ոսկեղէն զարդեր ու մեդալոններ<sup>1</sup>:

Թանգարաններու ու սեփական ժողովածուներու մէջ կը պահուին Տիգրանի վերադրուած ոսկերամները, որոնք առանց քայքայութեան անուանուած են «կեղծ» ուռմանսիրոց դրամադէտներու կողմէ<sup>2</sup>: Յօդուածագիրը անձամբ չէ քննած ասոնցմէ ունէ մին, Բայց ծանօթ է 1970-ական թուականներուն Պէյրութ պատրաստուած նմուշի մը, որ թափօծ օրինակ մըն է պատրաստուած Բեքերի կեղծ արծաթ չորեքդրամեանէն<sup>3</sup>:

Մեղալիստ Զաւէն Գրլընեան իմացուց, թէ 1950 թուականին, Տիգրան Մեծի ոսկեդրամ մը յայտնաբերուած է Դամասկոս ճարտարագէտ Իսկանտար Պաշուրայի ձեռքով: Հալէպահայ Յակոբ Իսկանեան լսելով այս նոր դրամագիրտի մասին, 1964 թուին նկարած է ոսկեդրամը, զոր Զաւէն Գրլընեան մեծ ազնուութեամբ մեզի տրամադրեց<sup>4</sup>:

**Երև.** Տիգրան Մեծի կիսանդրին պատանիի դիմանկարով դէպի աջ, մաքուր անիւղուած և գլխուն՝ մարգարտաշար հինգ ժանիքով հայկական խոյրը: Խոյրին ատամները ունին երանկիւնաձև մարգարտաշար հինգ զազաթ: Արքայական ժապաւէնը հանգուցուած է գլխուն ետին և ծայրերը ազատ ունի ի վար կ'իջնեն: Թագի ներքև միացած են ակաւջակայն ու վզկալը: Խոյրը զարդարուած է ութթևանի աստղով՝ կողքերուն մէկական արծիւ, որոնք իրարու կը նային: Մարգարտաշար շրջափակ:

**Նուակ.** Դամասկոս քաղաքին Բախտը, հինգ զազաթով թագը գլխուն, կը քալէ ու կը հայի դէպի ձախ: Աջ ձեռքով բռնած է շղարշ մը, իսկ ձախով ձեռքով՝ զանազան տեսակ պտուղներով լցնուած ամաթեղջիւր մը: Յունաստառ խորագրութիւնը աջին՝ ΒΑΣΙΛΕΥΣ, ձախին՝ ΤΙΓΡΑΝΟΥ:

Ոսկի, 18.50 մմ, 4.70 գրամ

Իսկանտար Պաշուրայի ժողովածու

### Դիտողութիւններ

1. Տիգրանի Դամասկոս հատանուած ծանօթ բոլոր դրամները ունին աստղ մը, մէկ արծիւ աջին, բազմաթիւ մենագիրներ ու հատանուած տարիներու թուարկութիւնը ըստ սելևկեան տոմարակալութեան: Մինչդեռ խնդրոյ առաւելայն ոսկեդրամը ունի աստղ մը, սակայն երկու արծիւ, և չունի ունէ մենագիր կամ տարեթիւ:
2. Ոսկեդրամին տառերուն առուեստը կը նմանի Դամասկոս հատանուած դրամի տառերուն, օրինակէ համար՝ I տառը Σ տառէն քիչ մը փոքր է, E տառը Λ տառէն քիչ մը մեծ է, N տառը լիովին հաւասարակշռուած չէ: Սակայն Տիգրան բառի A տառին հորիզոնական գծիը քիչ մը շեղակիօրէն վեր կը բարձրանայ:
3. Տիգրանի ոսկեդրամին ու Դամասկոս հատանուած պղնձեայ դրամի<sup>5</sup> մը, որու ետին ունի կռնգնած Բախտ մը, պատկերատիպը նոյնանման է Պղնձեայ դրամին վրայի աջ ձեռքով բռնող առաքկան ղեկի ծակ է և ոսկեդրամին վրայի շղարշին նմանութիւն չունի:
4. Ոսկեդրամի երեսին վրայ կան դրամահատութեան ճեղքեր, որոնք չեն տեսնուիր կռնակին վրայ:
5. Այս ոսկիէ կտորը խաչատրուած պատկերատիպ մըն է, երեսը կը նմանի Անտիօք հատանուած դրամներուն: մինչդեռ կռնակը Դամասկոս

Այս դրամը տեղեկագրուած է առ ի գիտութիւն ապագայի համար, առանց եզրակացնելու թէ կեղծ է կամ հարազատ

Ե. Թ. ՆԵՐՍԻՍԵԱՆ

<sup>1</sup> Y. T. Nercessian, "Armenian Gold Medals Created by Zaven Keledjian," *Armenian Numismatic Journal*, Ser. I, Vol. XIII (June 1987), No. 2, pp. 14-19, pls. I-II.

<sup>2</sup> Զարեհ Պատկեան, «Մեծն Տիգրանի կեղծ ոսկեդրամները», Դրամագիտական աշխատանքներու ժողովածուն (Առաւելու, 1981), էջ 422-424:

<sup>3</sup> G. F. Hill, *Becker the Counterfeiter* (London 1924, Chicago reprint, 1979), Part I, p. 71, pl. VIII, No. 121.

<sup>4</sup> Հեղինակը իր խորին չորհրդակալութիւնը կը յայտնէ Պրոֆ. Զաւէն Գրլընեանին, որ ոսկեդրամին մասին տեղեկութիւն և նկար հայթայթեց:

<sup>5</sup> E. T. Newell, *Late Seleucid Mints in Ake-Ptolemais and Damascus* (New York, 1939), pl. XVI, No. 152.



Հենրի Սալցման, Մեդալադործ Զաւէն Ղարախանեանը

Y. T. Nercessian, An Unpublished Gold Coin of Tigranes the Great -  
Տիգրան Մեծի անտիպ ոսկեղբամ մը

## GOLD COIN OF TIGRANES FROM ALEXANDROPOL

147. При изучении нумизматического материала необходимо учесть, что иногда могут встретиться совершенно неожиданные сюрпризы: мне, например, как-то попалась золотая монета Тиграна Армянского (97—56 гг. до н. э.), перечеканенная из . . . русской пятирублевки (под штампом Тиграна видны были фрагменты хвоста двуглавого орла и обрывки даты). Этот любопытный «аванхронизм» не являлся для меня неожиданностью, так как до этого Е. А. Пахомов предостерегал меня от покупки золотых монет Тиграна, утверждая, что подлинных до сих пор не попадалось, а появившиеся в продаже все оказывались подделками. Было установлено, что лет пятьдесят тому назад один александропольский мастер вырезал штемпель по рисунку довольно часто находимых в окрестностях Ленинанкана драхм и им начеканил порядочное количество медных, серебряных и золотых акземпларов, которые постепенно и распродал. Е. А. Пахомов говорил, что лично видел образцы всех трех видов в Ленинанке, где история их происхождения была общеизвестна и где они шли даже не как подделки, а лишь для забавы, как образцы рисунка. Это — довольно редкий в кавказской практике случай подделки не литьем, а чеканкой.

While studying numismatic material it is necessary to take the unexpected surprises. For example, I found a gold coin of Tigranes the Great (97-56 B.C.) that was overstruck on a 5-ruble Russian gold piece. Beneath the overstrike of Tigranes one could see the undertype traces of the date and the tail of the double headed eagle. I was not surprised because E. A. Pakhomov had warned me about buying Tigranes gold coins, emphasizing that he did not find any genuine pieces. All those that he saw were counterfeit. It was established that about 50 years earlier, a craftsman from Alexandropol engraved a die of Tigranes and struck substantial quantity of copper, silver, and gold pieces for sale. There were abundant copies in the vicinity of Leninakan. Pakhomov said that he personally saw samples from three different types in Leninakan, where the history of this operation is well known. In the Caucasus it is very rare to find struck copies; generally, these are prepared by sand casting.

D. G. KAPANADZE

(Translated by the staff of *Armenian Numismatic Journal* from*Georgian Numismatics* - Грузинская Нумизматика, Moscow, 1955, p. 159, No. 147)

## ARMENIAN NUMISMATIC LITERATURE

(Գաթ. էջ 80)

որոնց նորի պատկերում է լախտ և կռվող ցուլ. Անտիոքոս Ա (89-34 Ն.Ք.), բորնգէ դրամներ Տիգրան Մեծի/Կոմմագենիի առիւծին տիպով պատկերում. Բորնգէ դրամներ տրուած Եղեսիոյ-Հայաստանի վերաբերեալ խաղաղական դրամներ. Հայաստանի վերաբերեալ հռոմէական դրաներ որոնց խորագրութիւնն է APMENIA, ARMENIA, ARMENIACVS, ARMEN, REX ARMENIA DAT. Կիրիկեան Հայաստան, իշխանական շրջանի պղինձներ Կոստանդին Ա-ի (1095-1099), Թորոս Ա-ի (1100-1123), Թորոս Բ-ի (1144-1168), Լեւոն Բ-ի (1187-1199): Թագաւորական շրջան Լեւոն Ա (1199-1226), երկդրամներ, կէս երկդրամներ, մի և երկու առիւծով օծման դրամներ, հասարակ դրամներ, կիսադրամներ, և դանդեր. Հէթում Ա (1226-1271), Հէթում-Քալաթպատի երկլեզունան դրամներ, Հէթում-Քալաթպատի երկլեզունան դրամներ, Հէթում-Ջալէլի հասարակ և կէս դրամներ, դանդեր, ձիալար և հասարակ քարտէջներ. Լեւոն Բ (1270-1289), նախածման դրամներ, դրամներ, կիսադրամներ կոխում դրամներու կնիքներով ու նաև քարտէջներ. Հէթում Բ (1289-1306), բիրտներ և քարտէջներ Թագաւորի հայոց կիսանդրով և Թագաւոր նստած. Սմառտ (1296-1298), օծման դրամներ, սովորական դրամներ և քարտէջներ. Կոստանդին Ա (1298-1299), քարտէջներ. Լեւոն Գ (1301-1307), Թագաւորիներ և քարտէջներ. Օշին (1308-1320), օծման դրամներ, Թագաւորիներ, փողեր և արաբերէնով կրկնադրոշմուած դրամներ. Լեւոն Դ (1320-1342), Թագաւորիներ, Թագաւորիներ ուր առիւծը կը քայլէ ձախ, մեծ ու փոքր փողեր և Թագաւորիներ արաբերէնով կրկնադրոշմուած. Կի (1342-1344), Թագաւորիներ. Կոստանդին Գ (1344-1383), Թագաւորիներ կոխում Տարսուն և Սիս, Արաբերէնով կրկնադրոշմուած Թագաւորի և փողեր կոխում Սիս. Լեւոն Բուկակալ (1383-1385), Թագաւորիներ. Կոստանդին Դ (1385-1373), Թագաւորիներ և փողեր. Լեւոն Ե (1374-1375), բիրտներ և փողեր. Յետ Սուրբանան պղինձէ դրամներ, Անտիոք, խաչակիրներու արաթապաղիներ և սելջուկեան դրահմներ ԵՐԵՆ



17 SPINK & SON, LTD. Spink Auction Features Prominent Armenian Collection. *Ce-lator*, Vol. VIII (March 1994), No. 3, p. 25.

The Prof. Asbed Donabedian coin collection listed in forthcoming Spink Auction 102 is reviewed. YTN

Գրախոսուած է Փրոֆ. Ասպետ Տոնապետեանի դրամագիտական փողովածոն, որ ցուցակազր-  
ւած է Սփինկի յառաջիկայ Անուդ 102-ին մէջ: ԵԹՆ

18 SPINK & SON, LTD. The Largest Ever Auction of Armenian Coins. *Armenian Ob-server*, Vol. XXIV (16 February 1994), No. 15, p. 11. Advertisements in *Armenian Ob-server*, Vol. XXIV (9, 16, 23 February 1994), Nos. 14, 15, 16, p. 5, 6, 6, respectively. See abstract of No. 17.

19 TER PETROSSIAN, Levon. Armenia Introduces New Currency. *Armenian Ob-server*, Vol. XXIV (24 November 1993), No. 3, pp. 1, 3, 9, illus; *Armenian Reporter*, Vol. XXVII (27 November 1993), No. 8, pp. 1, 17.

On Friday, 19 November 1993, the Armenian President, Levon Ter Petrossian, officially announced that beginning 22 November, the Armenian national currency will go into circulation: 10 drams, 25 drams, 50 drams, 100 drams, and 200 drams. Beginning 22 November the following banknotes will be considered valid in Armenia: a) USSR Central Bank's 1, 3, 5, ruble certificates printed in 1961-1992; b) 25, 100, 200, and 500 ruble bank notes. The rate of exchange of the Armenian dram is: 10 dram — 2,000 rubles, 25 dram — 5,000 rubles, 100 dram — 10,000 rubles, 200 dram — 40,000 rubles, 500 dram — 100,000 rubles. YTN

Ուրբաթ օր, 19 Նոյեմբեր 1993 թ., Հայաստանի Նախագահ Լևոն Տէր Պետրոսեանը յայտա-  
րարեց, թէ 22 Նոյեմբերէն սկսեալ, Հայ ազգային թղթադրամը շրջանառութեան մէջ պիտի  
մտնէ: 10 դրամ, 25 դրամ, 50 դրամ, 100 դրամ և 200 դրամ, 22 Նոյեմբերէն սկսեալ միայն  
հետեւեալ թղթադրամները ընդունելի պիտի ըլլան Հայաստանի մէջ: ա) Խորհրդային Միու-  
թեան Կենդրոնական Բանկի թղթադրամներ 1, 3, 5 ռուբլի թղթադրամները տպուած 1961-1992 թ. 25,  
100, 200 և 500 ռուբլի թղթադրամները, Հայկական դրամի փոխանակութեան արժէքն է՝ 10  
դրամ — 2,000 ռուբլի, 25 դրամ — 5,000 ռուբլի, 100 դրամ — 10,000 ռուբլի, 200 դրամ — 40,000  
ռուբլի, 500 դրամ — 100,000 ռուբլի: ԵԹՆ

20 VARTABEDIAN, Tom. Gary Setian Battles Odds—and Perseveres, by Tom Vartabedian. *Armenian Weekly*, Vol. LXIII (18 September 1993), No. 38 (29621) p. A-9. Gary Setian's activity in the Armenian Youth Federation, his gesture of awarding Armenian coins to Armenian students, and his numismatic lectures are described. YTN

Նկարագրուած են Կարի Սէթեանի գործունէութիւնը Հայ երիտասարդաց Դաշնակցութեան  
մէջ, Հայ ուսանողներուն հայկական դրամներ պարգևելու իր վարմունքը, նաև իր դրամագի-  
տական դասախոսութիւնները: ԵԹՆ

21 ZOHRABIAN, A. L. Dvinum Arabasasanian dramneri shrjanařut'ian harts'i shurj [On the Question of Arab Sassanian Monetary Circulation in Dvin] - Դվինում Արաբասասանյան դրամների շրջանառութեան հարցի շուրջ, գրեց՝ Ա. Լ. Զոհրաբյան. *Hayas-tani hanrapetut'yunum* 1989-1990 t't'. dashdayin hnagitakan ashkhatan'neri ardyunk'nerin ntrvats gittakan nstashrjan, papers read in May 1991. Yerevan: Academy of Sciences of Armenia and Institute of Archaeology and Ethnography, 1991, pp. 105-107. In Armenian.

Arab Sassanian coins are found in Armenia in the form of a coin hoard along with other types of coins. A silver coin hoard discovered in Dvin in 1979 consisting of Umayyad, late Sassanian, and 'Abbasid of Tabaristan, also includes 5 broken pieces of Arab Sassanian coins (A.H. 55-70). The author concludes that Arab Sassanian coins not only were not issued in Armenia, but also did not play an essential role in the mon-etary circulation of Armenia. YTN

Արաբասասանեան դրամներ կը գտնուին Հայաստան գտնմի ձևով այլ դրամական խումբերու  
հետ 1979 թ. Դվին գտնուած արծաթեայ դրամներու գտնմի մը, բաղկացած՝ օմայյան, ուշ սա-  
սանեան և Թաբարիստանի Աբբասեան դրամներէն, կը պարունակէ նաև 5 արաբասասանեան  
դրամներու բեկորներուն (Հ. 55-70), Հեղինակը կ'ենգրկացնէ, թէ արաբասասանեան դրամները ոչ  
միայն չեն թողարկուած չեն Հայաստանի մէջ, այլ և էական դեր չեն խաղցած Հայաստանի  
դրամական շրջանառութեան մէջ: ԵԹՆ



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## Grading standards and abbreviations

UNC=Uncirculated (bank notes)	G=Good	=Nearly as good
FDC=Fleur de Coin	P=Poor (bank notes)	AV = Gold
EF=Extra Fine	f=Fair	AR = Silver
VF=Very Fine	r.=Right	Æ=Bronze or base metal
F=Fine	l.=Left	Æ29=Bronze coin with 29 mm diameter
VG=Very Good	+ =Slightly better	/=Separates the obverse from the reverse

## Standard works of reference used

- Bed=Bedoukian, P. Z. *Coinage of Cilician Armenia*, revised edition, Wilton, CT 1979  
BA=Bedoukian, P. Z. *Coinage of the Artaxiads of Armenia*, London, 1978  
RA=Bedoukian, P. Z. *Roman Coins and Medallions Relating to Armenia*, Vienna 1971 (in Armenian)  
BNA=Nercessian, Y. T. *Bank Notes of Armenia*, Los Angeles, 1988  
P=Pick, A. *Catalogue of World Paper Money*, Iola, WI

## Some general notes to Armenian coin and antiquity collectors

- Late Cilician Armenian coins have a very shallow depth and are struck with mediocre workmanship. In cases searching for coins like VF+ or EF is rather frustrating not to say impossible.
- Upon request, aluminum foil rubbings of coins will be submitted, please send a self addressed stamped envelope.

## Services available

- Attribution
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- Authentication
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- Assist in location of coin or currency
- Assist in formation of collections
- Search service
- Counsel Armenian coin collectors, museums, foundations, dealers, and corporations
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- Prepare an illustrated and attractive scholarly auction catalogue
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1 Նոյեմբեր 1994

November 1, 1994

Յարգելի բարեկամ,

Dear Friend,

Նախորդ երեք տարիներու ընթացքին ակնհայտես եղանք երեք հայկական դրամներու ժողովածուներու աճուրդին՝ Նուարդ Գափամաշեանի հայկական դրամներու աճուրդին, Փարիզ, Բուրժե, 27-29 Հոկտեմբեր 1992 (302 հայկական դրամ)։ Կլասիկալ Նիմֆա-մաթիկ Գրուպի հայկական դրամներու աճուրդին, Բուարիլլա, Փենսիլվանիա և Լոնդոն, 29 Սեպտեմբեր 1993 (235)։ Փրոֆ. Ասպետ Տոնապետեանի հայկական դրամներու աճուրդին, Լոնդոն, Սփինգս և Որդի, 2 Մարտ 1994 (4,552)։

Այս երեք մեծ աճուրդները յայտնեցին, թե գոյություն ունի հայկական դրամահաշվարկներու կարևոր միջազգային խումբ մը, հետաքրքրուած՝ արժեքավոր հայկական դրամագիտական առարկաներով, և պատրաստ՝ վճարելու հազուադիս և լարտակա ապրանքներու համար։

Մեր դրամահաշվարկներուն հաւասարակշռուած ցուցակագրութիւն մը ընծայելու նպատակակէտէն մղուած, մեր լաւագոյնը փորձեցինք բոլոր հայ թագաւորներու դրամներէն ներկայացնելու։ Միայն կրնանք յուսալ թէ մնաց ցուցակագրութիւն մը ձեռնարաց պիտի ընդունուի դրամահաշվարկներուն կողմէ, և մենք յաջողութեամբ պիտի վարձատրուինք ու քաջակերտինք ապագային հրատարակելու նման պատկերազարդ կատալոգ մը։

Միայն հնագիտական դրամներուն բաժնին մէջ ընծայուած են 325-է աւելի արծաթէ ու բրոնզէ դրամներ՝ բաժնուած 196 տարբեր խումբերու։ Իսկ ամբողջ դրամագիտական բաժնին մէջ ցուցակագրուած են 450-է աւելի դրամներ, թղթադրամներ, մեդալներ, դրոշմաթուղթեր և հնութիւններ։

Անոնք որ նորեկներ են մեր հաստատութեան՝ կ'ուզենք իմացնել թէ մեր գործունէութիւնը առ հասարակ կը կատարուի թղթակցութեամբ և դրամները, թղթադրամներն ու մեդալները կը պահուին դրամատեղան պահեստարաններէն ու մէջ և ոչ թէ մեր գրասենեակին մէջ։ Պիտի խնդրէինք որ հետաձայնէք ու ժամադրուիք թէ կը փափաքիք այցելել ու դրամները ըննել։ Նաև տաւր առ հաւորի զեղջ մը կը տրուի Հայ Դրամագիտական Ընկերակցութեան անդամութիւն։ Կը քաջալերենք Ձեզ միանալ Հայ Դրամագիտական Ընկերակցութեան և օգտուիլ այս խնայողական ծրագրէն։ Բաժանցողները դիրաւ կրնան անդամակցիլ ու ստանալ գողջ մը դրամագիտական ու հնագիտական և գեղարուեստի գիրքերու վաճառքի ընթացքին։

Եթէ ծրագրած էք այցելել Հարաւային Բալիֆորնիան կամ Լոս Անճելոս քաղաքը, Ձեզի ծանօթանալ պիտի փափաքէինք, հաճեցէ իմացնել մեզի, հեռախոս՝ 310-695-0380։

Ձերոյ յարգանքօ՝

Ե. Թ. ՆԵՐՇԵՍԻԱՆ

During the past few years we witnessed the auction of three Armenian coin collections: The Armenian coin auction of Nadia Kapamadjian, Paris, Bourgeois, October 27-29, 1992 (302 Armenian coins); The Armenian coin auction of Classical Numismatic Group, Inc., Quarryville, Pennsylvania and London, September 29, 1993 (235); The Armenian coin auction of Prof. Asbed Donabedian, London, Spink & Son, Ltd., March 2, 1994 (4,552).

These three major auctions indicated that there is an important international community of Armenian collectors, interested in Armenian numismatic material, and willing to pay good money for scarce and quality material.

With the objective of offering a balanced catalogue to our collectors, we tried our best to list coins from all Armenian kings. We hope that such an effort will be welcomed by collectors; we shall be successfully rewarded, and encouraged to publish similar illustrated catalogues in the future.

More than 325 coins, divided into 196 lots, are offered in the ancient and medieval coin section. In the whole numismatic section more than 450 coins, bank notes, medals, postage stamps, and antiquities are classified.

For those who are new to our establishment, we would like to draw your attention to the fact that this is a mail order business and coins, bank notes, medals are kept in our bank vaults and not in our office. Please make an appointment before you visit us. Also, there is a ten percent discount to members of Armenian Numismatic Society on the purchase of numismatic books and archaeology and art books. We encourage you to join the Armenian Numismatic Society and take advantage of this discount program. If you are a subscriber, you can convert a subscription to membership very easily.

If you plan to visit Southern California or Los Angeles, we would like to meet you; contact us, telephone: 310-695-0380.

Yours truly,

Y. T. NERCESSIAN

## COINS

## Tigranes II the Great (95-55 B.C.), silver coins

1. **Tetradrachm.** Obv.: Bust of Tigranes draped r., clean shaven and wearing ornate five-pointed tiara, edged with pearls. The tiara is adorned with an eight-pointed star flanked by two eagles back to back. Fillet border. Rev.: Tyche of Antioch, draped and wearing a turreted crown, seated r. on rock, holding a palm-branch in her r. hand; at her feet the river-god Orontes swimming r. Whole within laurel wreath. To r. downward ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ; l. downward ΤΙΓΓΑΝΟΥ. Monograms ΔΗ under rock and Α to r. of palm-branch. Bed 19/17, AR24, 15.49 g, VF \$800

2. **Tetradrachm.** Monograms ΔΗ under rock and Θ to r. of palm-branch. Bed 18/19, AR26, 15.58 g, VF \$700

3. **Tetradrachm.** Monogram Ϝ under rock and ϙ to r. of palm-branch. Bed 20/41v, AR26, 15.22 g, -VF \$900

4. **Tetradrachm.** Monogram Σ under rock. Bed 23v/21, AR 28 mm, 15.38 g, VF \$1250

5. Three (3) **tetradrachms.** 1) Bed. 19, AR 28, 15.39 g, F/VF; 2) Bed 19, AR28, 15.59 g, double strike on king's nose, F+/VF; 3) Bed 20, AR26, 15.62 g, VF, 3 tetradrachms \$1200

6. **Drachm.** Tigranes as before but rev. to r. downward ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ; l. downward ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΝ/ΤΙΓΓΑΝΟΥ. Letters above palm-branch ΕΑ, below palm-branch ο. Bed 64v, AR20, 3.74 g, VF \$1500

7. **Drachm.** Letters above palm-branch ΖΛ, below swimmer ΕC. Bed 83, AR19, 4.00 g, -VF \$1000

## Tigranes II the Great (95-55 B.C.), copper coins

8. Obv.: Bust of Tigranes. Rev.: Tyche as above. To r. downward ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ; l. downward ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΝ/ ΤΙΓΓΑΝΟΥ. Bed 92, ΑΕ23, 7.53 gm. Clean coin and nice black patina. -VF/F+ \$150

9. Tyche as before. Letter Δ to l. of Tyche's head, H above and, A to r. of palm-branch. Bed 94, ΑΕ18, 5.51 g. Black patina. -VF/F+ \$125

10. Tyche as before. Letter Δ to l. of Tyche's head, H above palm-branch. Bed 94v, ΑΕ18, 5.84 g. Clean coin and nice black patina. VF/-VF 125

11. Four bronzes with Tyche reverse. 2 Bed 94 (F+/-VF, -VF), Bed 96 (F), Bed 97 (VG+), nice coins all with black patina, 4 ΑΕ \$120

12. Tyche as before but overstruck on Phoenician/Aradus bronze. Undertype traces of Astarte Europa/front and rear end of humped bull, below ΡΟΔΝΙ l. Black patina. Bed 92V, ΑΕ21, 5.46 g. -F/F+ \$65

13. Tyche as before but overstruck on Seleucid bronze. Undertype Antioch Zeus/traces of

understrike. Black and red patina. Bed 92V, ΑΕ22, 8.68 g. F/VG \$55

14. Tyche as before but overstruck on Phoenician bronze. Undertype, Aradus Tyche/Poseidon. Nice coin with black and patina. Bed 92V, ΑΕ21, 5.22 g. F+ \$75

15. Tyche as before but countermarked Α. Bed 92V, ΑΕ20, 6.78 g. Ex Donabedian coll. VG+ \$30

16. Tyche as before but countermarked Α. Bed 92V, ΑΕ17, 4.97 g. Ex Donabedian coll. VG+ \$30

17. Obv.: Bust of Tigranes. Rev.: Bearded nude Heracles (Vahagn) standing, head l., r. arm folded holding lion's skin and l. hand leaning on club. In l. field letter Α. To r. downward ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ; l. downward ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΝ/ΤΙΓΓΑΝΟΥ. Bed 99, ΑΕ19, 3.69 g. Black patina. F+ \$75

18. Obv.: Bust of Tigranes. Rev.: Cornucopiae with upper half to l. In l. and r. field bunch of grapes. Legend similar to the preceding. Bed 105, ΑΕ14, 3.16 g, VF \$125

19. Two (2) bronzes with cornucopiae reverse. Bed 104 (F+), Bed 104V (F), nice coins all with black patina, 2 ΑΕ \$95

20. Head of Tigranes r. with five-pointed Armenian Tiara with a star on the l. side and one eagle to the r. Rev.: Tyche of Damascus seated l. on rock. At her feet a swimmer facing with arms outstretched. Tyche has her r. arm extended and her l. arm holds a cornucopiae. In l. monograms. To r. downward ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ; l. downward ΤΙΓΓΑΝΟΥ. Bed 109, ΑΕ20, 7.16 g, Ex Donabedian coll. -F/F+ \$200

21. Tyche of Damascus but in outer l. field letters ΘΕ above ΟΦ. ΑΕ19, 8.97 g, Bed 110. Ex Donabedian coll. -F/-VF \$200

22. Obv.: Young looking Tigranes and refined workmanship. Rev.: Tyche of Damascus standing l., resting r. hand on tiller and holding with l. cornucopiae. Legend similar to the preceding. ΑΕ18, 6.30 g, Bed 112V, Ex Donabedian coll. -VF \$450

23. Tigranes. Comet star on tiara. Letter Α in l. field. Rev.: Nike advancing l. with outstretched l. hand holding wreath and r. hand extending downward. Legend similar to the preceding. Letters ΔΗΜΟ below Nike. ΑΕ20, 4.81 g. Bed 114, F+/-VF \$110

24. Nike reverse and uncertain letters in l. field. ΑΕ20, 6.91 g., Bed 119V, -F \$45

25. Obv.: Bust of Tigranes with Armenian tiara and comet star. Rev.: Nike advancing l. as before. Letters ΘΛ (not in Bed) in l. field. ΑΕ19, 6.54 g, Bed 119V, Ex Donabedian coll. F/F+ \$125

26. Same as above. Letters ΘΛ in l. field. ΑΕ18, 6.19 g. Bed 119V, Ex Donabedian coll. F \$100

27. Bust of Tigranes, star and 4 peaks on tiara. Letter A in l. field. Rev.: Nike advancing l. as before. Legend similar to the preceding.  $\text{AE}17$ , 3.64 g, Bed 120, -VF \$75

28. Tigranes with Armenian tiara and comet star. Rev.: Palm-branch curved to l. with flower. To r. downward  $\text{BA}\Sigma\text{IAE}\Omega\text{S}$ ; l. downward  $\text{T}\Pi\text{P}\text{AN}\text{OY}$ . Letters  $\Delta\text{HMO}$  below.  $\text{AE}20$ , 4.68 g, F/-VF \$75

29. Palm-branch.  $\text{AE}18$ , 3.88 g, F+ \$75

30. Tripod. Bed 122,  $\text{AE}13$ , 2.53g, F \$70

31. Tigranes with five-pointed tiara. Comet star on tiara. Rev.: Horse to r., head down and grazing. Above  $\text{BA}\Sigma\text{IAE}\Omega\text{S}$ ; below  $\text{T}\Pi\text{P}\text{AN}\text{OY}$ .  $\text{AE}12$ , 2.11 g, Ex Donabedian coll. F/-F \$175

32. Horse as before,  $\Delta\text{HMO}$  in r. field.  $\text{AE}14$ , 1.86 g, Ex Donabedian coll. -F/F \$195

33. Horse, no field letter.  $\text{AE}11$ , 1.69g, -F/VG+ \$100

**We obtained a small hoard of Tigranes II coppers, being sold on consignment. P**

34. Obv.: Tigranes. Rev.: Tyche.  $\text{AE}20$ , 8.21 g, BA 92, -VF \$95

35. Tyche.  $\text{AE}22$ , 7.45 g, BA 93, -F \$30

36. Tyche. Overstruck on Seleucid or Phoenician coin. Undertype?  $\text{AE}22$ , 5.76 g, BA 92V, VF/-F \$30

37. Tyche. Overstruck on Seleucid or Phoenician coin. Undertype?  $\text{AE}23$ , 5.59 g, BA 92V, -VF \$75

38. Tyche. Blundered legend on reverse. Black patina.  $\text{AE}8$ , 5.25 g, BA 96, F+ \$75

39. Five bronzes, Tyche reverse. Bed 92 (VG+, 21mm, 8.13g; VG, 21mm, 7.04g; -F, 21mm, 6.81g; VG+, 22mm, 6.98g; F, 18mm, 4.81g), 5  $\text{AE}$  \$100

40. Five bronzes, Tyche reverse. Bed 92 (-F/F, 19mm, 4.81g; VG 19mm, 4.46g; -F, 19mm, 3.21g; -F, 19mm, 3.57g), Bed 95 (G, 20mm, 4.81g), 5  $\text{AE}$  \$100

41. Vahagn. Bed 100,  $\text{AE}17$ , 5.36g, F+ \$75

42. Three bronzes with Vahagn reverse. Bed 99 (VG+, 18mm, 3.77g), Bed 100 (-F, 20mm, 4.50g), Bed 102 (-F, 16 mm, 3.72g), 3  $\text{AE}$  \$75

43. Cornucopiae. Bed 105,  $\text{AE}14$ , 3.20g, F/-VF \$75

44. Cornucopiae. Bed 106,  $\text{AE}15$ , 2.69g, below in exergue  $\Delta\text{H}$ . F \$55

45. Five bronzes with Cornucopiae reverse. Bed 104 (-F, 16mm, 3.59g; VG+, 16mm, 2.52g), Bed 105 (VF+, 16mm, 3.59g; F, 13mm, 2.32g), Bed 106 (F+/F, 15 mm, 2.29 g, in exergue  $\Delta\text{H}$ ), 5  $\text{AE}$  \$125

46. Rev.: Head of wheat. Bed 107,  $\text{AE}13$ , 2.30g, F/F+ \$50

47. Four bronzes with Head of wheat reverse. Bed 107 (F, 13mm, 2.86g, letters T/A; VG, 12mm,

1.96g; F+, 14mm, 1.97 g, letters T/A; -F, 13 mm, 1.64g, letters T/A), 4  $\text{AE}$  \$100

48. Tigranes with four-peak tiara. Rev.: Nike. Bed 120,  $\text{AE}16$ , 4.24g, -VF \$75

49. Nike. Bed 120,  $\text{AE}15$ , 3.57g, -VF/F \$60

50. Nike. Bed 120,  $\text{AE}15$ , 2.42g, F \$45

51. Five bronzes with Nike reverse. Bed 120 (VG+/VG, 17mm, 4.97g; VG+, 16mm, 3.84g; VG+, 15mm, 3.76 g; VG+, 16 mm, 3.22g; -F, 17mm, 3.19g), 5  $\text{AE}$  \$100

52. Palm-branch. Bed 121,  $\text{AE}14$ , 3.81 g, -F \$50

53. Tripod. Bed 122,  $\text{AE}15$ , 2.55 g, -F \$50

**Artavasdes II (56-34 B.C.), copper coins**

54. Obv.: Bust of Artavasdes r., wearing ear-rings and five-pointed Armenian tiara. Rev.: Nike advancing l. Holdig crown in extended r. hand. Left hand resting on hips. To r. downward  $\text{BACIAE}\Omega\text{C}$ ; to l. downward  $\text{BACIAE}\Omega\text{N/APTA}\Sigma\text{AZA}\Delta\text{OY}$ . Overstruck, under-type unidentifiable. Bed 132,  $\text{AE}22$ , 8.28 g, Ex Donabedian coll. F \$250

55. Artavasdes r. as before. Letter A in l. field. Rev.: Nike advancing l. as before. About 1/6th of coin broken and cemented. Overstruck on bronze of Aradus, Phoenicia, undertype head of Astarte Europa/ head and rear legs of galloping bull. Bed 132,  $\text{AE}22$ , 5.28 g, Ex Donabedian coll. F/-F \$175

**Tigranes III (20-8 B.C.), copper coins**

56. Obv.: Bust of Tigranes r., beardless, wearing a high five-pointed Armenian tiara adorned with a large eight-pointed star without eagles. Letter A in l. field. Rev.: Elephant to l. with trunk down. Square legend CW, above to r. downward  $\text{BA}\Sigma\text{IAE}\Omega\text{S}$ ; to r. downward  $\text{ME}\Gamma\text{A}\Lambda\text{OY}$ ; below to left upside down  $\text{T}\Pi\text{P}\text{AN}\text{OY}$ ; to r. upward  $\Theta\text{EOY}$ . Bed 143,  $\text{AE}19$ , 4.25 g, Ex Donabedian coll. -VF/F+ \$350

57. Tigranes as before. Rev. Nike advancing l. holding crown in l. hand and r. arm extending downward. Legend similar to the preceding. Bed 145,  $\text{AE}17$ , 4.83 g, Ex Donabedian coll. VG \$125

**Tigranes IV (8-5 B.C.), copper coins**

58. Head of heavily bearded Tigranes r. The tiara has five points and is surrounded with dotted pearls. A large star adorns the tiara. Rev.: Elephant walking l. with trunk up. Above  $\text{BACIAE}\Omega\text{C}$ ;  $\text{T}\Pi\text{P}\text{AN}\text{OY}$ ; to r. below  $\text{ME}\Gamma\text{A}\Lambda\text{OY}$ . Bed 150,  $\text{AE}17$ , 4.19 g, F \$200

59. Elephant's head to l. with trunk up. walking l. with trunk up. Bed 152,  $\text{AE}13$ , 3.13 g. Ex Donabedian coll. G+ \$150

60. Elephant's head as before. Bed 152,  $\text{AE}14$ , 1.52 g, Ex Donabedian coll. VG/F \$15

61. Heavily bearded Tigranes r. Rev: Nude Heracles (Vahagn) standing l. Right hand holding a long spear and l. hand a lion's skin. To r. downward ΒΑΣΙΛΕΥΣ/ΤΙΓΡΑΝΟΥ; to l downward ΜΕΓΑΛΟΥ. Bed 154, AE19, 5.28 g, Ex Donabedian coll. G \$100

#### Artavasdes III (5-2 B.C.), copper coins

62. Obv.: Head of Artavasdes r., wearing five-pointed Armenian tiara adorned with a large star. Rev.: An eagle turned l. and perched on top of a mountain. To r. ΒΑΣΙΛΕΥΣ/ ΜΕΓΑΛΟΥ; to l. downward ΑΡΤΑ. Donabedian HAR X, Abgarians ANJ XVI, AE19, 5.73 g, Ex Donabedian coll., G \$250

#### Related copper coins

63. Miscellaneous ancient copper coins (17). Includes coins of Tigranes II (8 pieces), Tigranes III (4), Tigranes IV (2), Tigranes IV and Erato (1), Artavasdes III (2). Some attributions not certain because of coin condition. 15 out of 17 Ex Donabedian coll. Mostly in poor condition. 17 AE \$200

#### COMMAGENE

64. Antiochus IV (A.D. 38-72). Obv.: Head of Antiochus r. ΒΑΣΙΛΕΥΣ ΜΕΓ' ΑΝΤΙΟΧΟΣ ΕΠΙ. Rev.: Scorpion within laurel wreath. ΚΟΜΜΑ-ΓΗΝΩΝ. Type BMC p. 106. No. 1, AE29, 14.16 g. Dark green patina. VF+/VF \$225

65. As above, AE27, 12.17 g. VF \$145

66. As above, AE27, 13.32 g. VF \$135

67. Epiphanes and Callinicus (A.D. 72). Obv.: Both princes wearing chlamys, riding l. ΒΑΣΙΛΕΥΣ [ΥΙΟΥ]. Rev.: Capricorn r., above a star, beneath an anchor. ΚΟΜΜΑΓΗΝΩΝ, within laurel wreath. RPC 3861, AE19, 7.03 g. Dark green patina. F+ \$145

#### ROMAN COINS RELATING TO ARMENIA

68. Nero (A.D. 54-68). Obv.: Head r. NERO. CLAVD. DIVI. CLAVD. F. CAESAR. AVG. GERMANI. Rev.: Victory walking r., holds palm and wreath. ARMENIAC. Bed 21, RIC 38, AR13, 1.22 g. VG+ \$45

69. Marcus Aurelius, denarius (A.D. 161-180). Obv.: Head r. laur. ANTONINVS AVG ARMENIACVS. Rev.: Armenia std. l. in mournful attitude; before her, vexillum and shield; l. hand rests on bow. ARMEN. P. M. TR. P. XVIII. IMP. II. COS. III. Bed 403, RIC 79, C 7, AR18, 3.34 g. VF+/VF \$195

70. Aurelius denarius, Obv.: Head r. bare. ANTONINVS AVG ARMENIACVS. Rev.: Armenia std. as above. ARMEN. TR. P. XVIII. IMP. II. COS. III. Bed 407V, AR18, 3.43 g., RIC 87V. VF+/EF \$350

#### 'ABBASID COIN INSCRIBED ARMINIYAH

71. Al Mahdi (158 A.H./A.D. 775-785). 'Abbasid dirham. Religious inscription on both sides. The

inscription includes in cufic Arminiyyah and the date A.H. 161. AR24, 2.94 g. BMC I-89. VF \$125

#### CILICIAN ARMENIAN COINS Levon I (1198-1219), silver coins

72. Double tram. Obv.: King seated on throne ornamented with lions, wearing crown and royal mantle on his shoulders. He holds a cross with his r. hand and fleur-de-lis in his l. hand. His feet rest on a foot stool. ՀԵՒՆ ԹԳՐ ԱՍԵՆԱՅՆ ՀԱՅՈՑ. Rev.: Lion crowned, turned l., holding a cross with two bars. Cinquefoul to l. of lion. ՀԱՐՈՂՈՒԹԵԱՄԲԱՆ ԱՍՏԻՈՑ. Bed 23, AR28, 5.38 g, F+ \$750

73. Double tram. No field marks. Bed 24, AR26, 5.60 g, VF+ \$1250

74. Double tram. Cinquefoul to l. of lion and " above lion. Bed 25, AR27, 5.41 g, VF \$1000

75. Double tram. Cinquefoul to l. of lion and dot over and under lion. Bed 27, AR26, 5.46g, VF+ \$1250

76. Half double tram. Obv.: king seated on throne ornamented with lions, wearing crown and royal mantle on his shoulders. He holds a cross with his r. hand and fleur-de-lis in his l. hand. His feet rest on a foot stool. ՀԵՒՆ ԹԱԳԱՒՈՐ ՀԱՅՈՑ. Rev.: Lion crowned, turned l., holding a cross with two bars. Letter h to l. of lion and dot above lion. ՀԱՐՈՂՈՒԹԵԱՆ ԱՍՏԻՈՑ. Bed 49, AR22, 2.68 g, VF \$150

77. Half double tram. Obv.: As before. Rev.: Lion crowned, turned l., holding cross with two bars. Letter h to l. of lion, a dot above lion and three dots l. of lion's head. ՀԱՐՈՂՈՒԹԵԱՆ ԱՍՏԻՈՑ. Bed 54, AR22, 2.76 g, VF+ \$200

78. Half tram. Obv.: King seated on throne ornamented with lions, wearing crown and royal mantle on his shoulders. He holds a cross with his r. hand and fleur-de-lis in his l. hand. His feet rest on a foot stool. ՀԵՒՆ ԹԱԳԱՒՈՐ ՀԱՅՈՑ. Rev.: Long cross between two lions rampant regardant. ՀԱՐՈՂՈՒԹԵԱՆ ԱՍՏԻՈՑ. Bed 71, AR17, 1.35 g, VF \$200

79. Half tram. Obv.: As before. ՀԵՒՆ ԹԱԳԱՒՈՐ ՀԱՅՈՑ. Rev.: As before. ՀԱՐՈՂՈՒԹԵԱՆ ԱՍՏԻՈՒ. Bed 75V, AR19, 1.45g, VF \$300

80. Coronation tram. Obv.: Christ or the Virgin standing l. and facing. King kneeling to l. with a crown on his head. A dove descending from above. Letters B and reversed Ա in obverse field. ՀԵՒՆ ԹԱԳԱՒՈՐ ՀԱՅՈՑ Է. Rev.: Long cross between two lions rampant regardant. ՀԱՐՈՂՈՒԹԵԱՆ ԱՍ. Bed 84V, AR23.5, 2.85 g, EF \$100

81. Coronation tram. Obv.: As before. A hand with two fingers descending from above. ՀԵՒՆ



ԹԱԳԱՆՈՐ ՀԱՅՈՑ. Rev.: As before. +ԱՐՐՈՂՈՒԹ-  
ԲՆ ԱՍՏՈՒ. Bed 96V, AR22, 2.95 g, VF+ \$75

**82. Coronation tram.** Obv.: As before. A ray with three fingers descending from above and pointed toward king. Rev.: As before. +ԱՐՐՈՂՈՒԹԲՆ ԱՍՏՈ. Bed 104, AR21.5, 2.98 g, -VF/VF \$50

**83. Coronation tram.** Obv.: As before. A ray with three fingers descending from above. Rev.: As before. +ԱՐՐՈՂՈՒԹԲՆ ԱՍՏ. Bed 110, AR22, 2.93 g, VF \$38

**84. Coronation tram.** Obv.: As before. A ray with three fingers descending from above. Rev.: As before. +ԱՐՐՈՂՈՒԹԲՆ ԱՍՏ I. Bed 110V, AR24, 2.86 g, -VF \$35

**85. Coronation tram.** Obv.: As before. A dove descending from above. Rev.: As before. +ԱՐՐՈՂՈՒԹԲՆ ԱՍՏ. Bed 111, AR22, 2.93 g, VF/-VF \$33

**86. Coronation tram.** Obv.: As before. Three rays descending from above. +ՀԵՒՈՆ ԹԱԳԱՆՈՐ ՀԱՅՈ. Rev.: As before. +ԱՐՐՈՂՈՒԹԲՆ ԱՍՏՈՒԾ. Bed 119V, AR23, 2.98 g, VF \$30

**87. Coronation tram.** Obv.: As before. A ray descending from above. +ՀԵՒՈՆ ԹԱԳԱՆՈՐ ՀԱՅ. Rev.: As before. +ԱՐՐՈՂՈՒԹԲՆ ԱՍՏ. Bed 122, AR23, 2.83 g, F+/VG+ \$25

**88. Tram.** Obv.: King seated on throne ornamented with lions, wearing crown and royal mantle on his shoulders. He holds a cross with his r. hand and fleur-de-lis in his l. hand. His feet rest on a foot stool. +ՀԵՒՈՆ ԹԱԳՈՐ ԱՄԵՆ ՀԱՅՈՑ. Rev.: Long cross between two lions rampant regardant. +ԱՐՐՈՂՈՒԹԲՆ ԱՍՏԻՇՈՆ. Bed 129, AR21.5, 2.85 g, VF+ \$75

**89. Tram.** Obv.: As before. +ՀԵՒՈՆ ԹԱԳԱՆՈՐ ՀԱՅՈՑ. Rev.: As before. +ԱՐՐՈՂՈՒԹԲՆ ԱՍՏԻՇՈՆ. Bed 233, AR22, 2.92 g, EF+ \$150

**90. Tram.** Obv.: As before. +ՀԵՒՈՆ ԹԱԳԱՆՈՐ ՀԱՅՈՑ. Rev.: As before. +ԱՐՐՈՂՈՒԹԲՆ ԱՍՏԻՇՈՆ. Bed 237, AR23, 2.95 g, VF+ \$50

**91. Tram.** Obv.: As before. +ՀԵՒՈՆ ԹԱԳԱՆՈՐ ՀԱՅՈՑ. Rev.: As before. +ԱՐՐՈՂՈՒԹԲՆ ԱՍՏԻՇՈՆ. Bed 241, AR22, 2.95 g, VF \$40

**92. Tram.** Obv.: As before. +ՀԵՒՈՆ ԹԱԳԱՆՈՐ ՀԱՅՈՑ. Rev.: As before. +ԱՐՐՈՂՈՒԹԲՆ ԱՍՏԻՇՈՆ. Bed 560, AR23, 2.91 g, EF \$150

**93. Tram.** Obv.: As before but he holds a cross with his left hand and fleur-de-lis in his right hand. His feet rest on a foot stool. +ՀԵՒՈՆ ԹԱԳԱՆՈՐ. ՀԱՅՁ & Կ. Rev.: Long cross between two lions rampant regardant. +ԱՐՐՈՂՈՒԹԲՆ ԱՅՈԱՅ. Bed 669, AR22, 2.89 g, F+ \$75

**94. Three trams.** -VF (Bed 171b), -VF (Bed 549), -VF (Bed 590), 3 trams \$80

**95. Four trams.** F+ (Bed 435a), F (Bed 579V), F+ (Bed 616V), F+ (Bed 628), 4 trams \$55

**96. Six trams.** F+ (Bed 505V), -F/F+ (Bed 579V), F+ (Bed 600), -F/-VF (Bed 615aV), F+ (Bed 634), F+ (Bed 647V), 6 trams \$80

### Levon I (1198-1219), copper coins

**97. Tank.** Obv.: Bearded leonine head of king facing, wearing crown with six dots. +ՀԵՒՈՆ ԹԱԳԱՆՈՐ ՀԱՅՈՑ. Rev.: Patriarchal cross with two stars in field. +ԾԻՆԵԱԼ Ի ՔԱՂԱՔՍ Ի ՍԻՍ, Bed 706, AE28, 7.13 g, F/-VF \$50

**98. Tank.** Obv.: As before but the crown has five dots and one curl. +ՀԵՒՈՆ ԹԱԳԱՆՈՐ ՀԱՅՈՑ. Rev.: As before. +ԾԻՆԵԱԼ Ի ՔԱՂԱՔ Ի ՍԻՍ, Bed 718, AE28, 7.31 g, -VF \$60

**99. Tank.** Obv.: As before but the crown has five dots. +ՀԵՒՈՆ ԹԱԳԱՆՈՐ ՀԱՅՈՑ. Rev.: As before. +ԾԻՆԵԱԼ Ի ՔԱՂԱՔՍ Ի ՍԻ, Bed 733, AE28, 5.29 g, VF \$75

**100. Tank.** Obv.: As before but the crown has six dots. +ՀԵՒՈՆ ԹԱԳԱՆՈՐ ՀԱՅՈՑ. Rev.: As before. +ԾԻՆԵԱԼ Ի ՔԱՂԱՔՍ Ի ՍԻ, Bed 747, AE30, 7.61 g, F/F+ \$35

**101. Tank.** Obv.: As before but the crown has six dots. +ՀԵՒՈՆ ԹԱԳԱՆՈՐ ՀԱՅՈՑ. Rev.: As before. +ԾԻՆԵԱԼ Ի ՔԱՂԱՔՍ Ի ՍԻՍ, Bed 764, AE28, 6.56 g, F \$25

**102. Tank.** Obv.: As before but the crown has six dots and one curl. +ՀԵՒՈՆ ԹԱԳԱՆՈՐ ՀԱՅՈՑ. Rev.: As before. +ԾԻՆԵԱԼ Ի ՔԱՂԱՔՍ Ի ՍԻ, Bed 767, AE28, 6.93 g, -VF \$50

**103. Tank struck in Ayas.** Obv.: As before but the crown has seven dots. +ՀԵՒՈՆ ԹԱԳԱՆՈՐ ՀԱՅՈՑ. Rev.: As before. +ԾԻՆԵԱԼ Ի ՔԱՂԱՔ ԱՍԻՍ, Bed 757V, AE29.5, 7.56 g, F \$40

### Hetoum I (1226-1270), silver coins

**104. Bilingual tram.** Hetoum-Kaikhosrew. Obv.: King on horseback r., holding scepter with r. hand. Cross in l. field above the horse. Crescent in r. field above horse, star in r. field below horse, cross in l. field above horse. +ՀԵԹՈՒՄ ԹԱԳԱՆՈՐ ՀԱՅՈՑ. Rev.: Arabic inscription in four lines, A.H. 637, Bed 794, AR24, 2.74 g, VF+ \$200

**105. Bilingual tram.** Hetoum-Kaikhosrew. Obv.: As before. Cross in l. field above the horse. Cross in l. field above horse. +ՀԵԹՈՒՄ ԹԱԳԱՆՈՐ ՀԱՅՈՑ. Rev.: Arabic inscription in four lines, A.H. 639, Bed 808, AR24, 2.90 g, F+ \$95



**106. Bilingual tram.** Hetoum-Kaikhosrew. Obv.: As before. Cross in l. field above the horse. Crescent in r. field above horse, star in r. field below horse, cross in l. field above horse. +ՀԵՐՈՒՄ ԹԱԳԱՒԻՐ ՀԱՅՈՑ. Rev.: Arabic inscription in four lines, A.H. 640, Bed 814, AR23, 2.95 g, EF \$250

**107. Bilingual tram.** Hetoum-Kaikhosrew. Obv.: As before. Cross in l. field above the horse. Crescent in r. field above horse, dot in r. field below horse, cross in l. field above horse. +ՀԵՐՈՒՄ ԹԱԳԱՒԻՐ ՀԱՅՈՑ. Rev.: Arabic inscription in four lines, A.H. 641, Bed 819, AR26, 2.88 g, VF \$125

**108. Hetoum-Zabel Tram.** Obv.: On the l. queen to r., facing; on the r. Hetoum to l., facing. Both crowned, wearing royal vestments and holding a long cross which has a star at the lower part. +ԱՆՐՈՂՈՒԹ ԻՆՆ ԱՅ Ե. Rev.: Lion to r., crowned and holding a cross with l. paw. +ՀԵՐՈՒՄ ԹԱԳԱՒԻՐ ՀԱՅՈՑ. Bed 845, AR21, 2.81 g, -EF \$100

**109. Hetoum-Zabel Tram.** Obv.: As before but the cross has a dot instead of star. Rev.: As before. Bed 897, AR20, 2.88 g, VF+ \$100

**110. Hetoum-Zabel Tram.** Obv.: As before. Rev.: As before but the lion is walking and there is a cross behind him. Bed 945, AR21, 2.59 g, VF+/EF \$75

**111. Hetoum-Zabel Tram.** Obv.: As before. +ԱՆՐՈՂՈՒ ԹԻՆՆ ԱՅ Ե. Rev.: Lion to r., crowned and there is a cross behind him. +ՀԵՐՈՒՄ ԹԱԳԱՒԻՐ ՀԱ. Bed 1043v, AR21, 2.73 g, -VF/VF \$50

**112. Three Hetoum-Zabel Tram, VF+ (Bed 857), VF+ (Bed 988), VF+ (Bed 922a), 3 trms \$100**

**113. Three Hetoum-Zabel Tram, VF (Bed 863), -VF (Bed 922v), VF (Bed 1006v), 3 trms \$85**

**114. Hetoum-Zabel half Tram.** Obv.: As before. +ԱՆՐՈՂՈՒԹ-ԻՆ ԱՅ Ե. Rev.: As before. +ՀԵՐՈՒՄ ԹԱԳԱՒԻՐ ՀԱՅ. Bed 1275v, AR16, 1.22 g, F/F+ \$90

**115. Hetoum-Zabel half Tram.** Obv.: As before. +ԱՆՐՈՂՈՒԹ-ԻՆ ԱՅ. Rev.: As before. +ՀԵՐՈՒՄ ԹԱԳԱՒԻՐ. Bed 1287, AR16, 1.52 g, VF+ \$375

#### Hetoum I (1226-1270), copper coins

**116. Tank.** Obv.: King seated on throne adorned with lions. He holds the globus cruciger in his l. hand and in his r. a fleur-de-lis extending over his r. shoulder. +ՀԵՐՈՒՄ ԹԱԳԱՒԻՐ ՀԱՅՈՑ. Rev.: Potent cross with four lines in four quadrants. +ԾԻՆԵԱԼ Ի ՔԱՂԱՔՆ Ի ՍԻՍ. Bed 1296, AE29, 7.73g, VF \$75

**117. Tank.** Rev.: As before. +ԾԻՆԵԱԼ Ի ՔԱՂԱՔՆ Ի ՍԻՍ. Bed 1301, AE29, 7.37gm, VF+ \$75

**118. Tank.** Obv.: As before but king's throne has two legs on each side. Bed 1341, AE30, 5.89 g, F+/VF \$50

**119. Tank.** Obv.: King seated as before, the throne has one leg on each side and a star in l. field. +ՀԵՐՈՒՄ ԹԱԳԱՒԻՐ ՀԱՅ. Rev.: Cross with four stars in four quadrants. +ԾԻՆԵԱԼ Ի ՔԱՂԱՔՆ Ի ՍԻՍ. Bed 1362, AE30, 6.81 g, -VF \$50

**120. Tank struck in Ayas.** Obv.: King seated as before but the throne has two legs on each side. +ՀԵՐՈՒՄ ԹԱԳԱՒԻՐ ՀԱՅՈՑ. Rev.: Cross with four stars in four quadrants. +ԾԻՆԵԱԼ Ի ՔԱՂԱՔՆ Ի Ս. Bed 1304v, AE28, 8.40 g, F+ \$60

**121. Equestrian kardez.** Obv.: King on horseback to r. +ՀԵՐՈՒՄ ԹԱԳԱՒԻՐ ՀԱՅՈՑ. Rev.: Cross with four stars in four quadrants. +ԾԻՆԵԱԼ Ի ՔԱՂԱՔՆ Ի ՍԻՍ. Bed 1372, AE24, 3.81 g, F+ \$40

**122. Equestrian kardez.** Obv.: As before. +ՀԵՐՈՒՄ ԹԱԳԱՒԻՐ ՀԱՅՈՑ. Rev.: As before but the cross has short lines in four quadrants. Bed 1374, AE22, 3.12 g, -F/-VF \$35

**123. Kardez, king seated.** Obv.: King seated on a throne adorned with lions. +ՀԵՐՈՒՄ ԹԱԳԱՒԻՐ ՀԱՅՈՑ. Rev.: Potent cross with four stars in four quadrants. +ԾԻՆԵԱԼ Ի ՔԱՂԱՔՆ Ի ՍԻՍ. Similar to Bed 1393v, AE22, 4.11 g, F+ \$30

**124. Kardez, king seated.** Obv.: King seated on a wide bench with two legs on each side. +ՀԵՐՈՒՄ ԹԱԳԱՒԻՐ ՀԱՅՈՑ. Rev.: Potent cross with a moon in 1st and lines in 2nd, 3rd and 4th quadrants. +ԾԻՆԵԱԼ Ի ՔԱՂԱՔՆ Ի ՍԻՍ. Bed 1394, AE23, 3.94 g, -VF \$30

**125. Kardez, king seated.** Obv.: King seated as before. Rev.: Potent cross as before. +ԾԻՆԵԱԼ Ի ՔԱՂԱՔՆ Ի Ս. Bed 1396, AE24, 4.41 g, VF \$35

#### Levon II (1270-1289), silver coins

**126. Tram.** Obv.: King on horseback to r., holding reins with l. hand, and with r. a royal staff extending over his r. shoulder. Field mark. l. of king's staff and T r. of king's head. +ՀԵՐՈՒՄ ԹԱԳԱՒԻՐ ԱՄԵՆԱՅՆ ՀԱՅ. Rev.: Crowned lion to l., walking, behind him is a cross with two arms. +ԾԻՆԵԱԼ Ի ՔԱՂԱՔՆ Ի ՍԻՍ. Bed 1455, AR22, 2.51 g, F \$30

**127. Tram.** Obv.: King on horseback to r. as before. Field mark T r. of king's head. +ՀԵՐՈՒՄ ԹԱԳԱՒԻՐ ԱՄԵՆԱՅՆ Հ. Rev.: As before. Bed 1477v, AR22, 2.78 g, -VF \$50

**128. Tram.** Obv.: King on horseback to r., holding reins with l. hand, and with r. a cross extending over his r. shoulder. +ՀԵՐՈՒՄ ԹԱԳԱՒԻՐ ՀԱՅՈՑ. Rev.: Crowned lion to r., with l. paw holding a cross with

one arm. +ԾԻՆԵԱԼ Ի ՔԱՂԱՔՆ Ի ՄԻՍ. Bed 1496V, AR21.5, 2.42 g, VF+ \$70

**129. Tram.** Obv.: As before. Field marks, o r. of king's head a crescent, to l. of royal staff a star, below horse cross-shaped field mark. +ԼԵԻՐՆ ԹԱԳԱԽՈՐ ՀԱՅՍ. Rev.: Crowned lion to r., standing, behind him is a cross with one arm. Legend as before. Bed 1510, AR21, 2.53 g, Ex Donabedian coll., -VF \$55

**130. Three (3) Trams.** Bed 1493 (F+, pierced), 1494 (-F), 1498V (VG/-VF) **Ayas** mint, Ex Donabedian coll. 3 trams \$60

**131. Half Tram** without legend struck with tram die. Obv.: King on horseback as before. Rev.: Crowned lion to r., stnding, behind him is a cross with one arm. Bed 1532, AR16, 1.43 g. F+ \$100

**132. Half Tram** without legend struck with tram die. Obv.: King on horseback as before. Rev.: Crowned lion to l., walking, behind him is a cross with two bars. Bed 1524, AR16, 1.26 g. -F \$80

#### Levon II (1270-1289), copper coins

**133. Kardez.** Obv.: Lion walking r. +ԼԵԻՐՆ ԹԱԳԱԽՈՐ ՀԱՅՈՑ. Rev.: Cross. +ԾԻՆԵԱԼ Ի ՔԱՂԱՔՆ Ի ... Bed 1574V, AE23, 3.05 g, F \$50

**134. Kardez.** Obv.: Lion walking l. +ԼԵԻՐՆ ԹԱԳԱԽՈՐ ՀԱՅՈՑ. Rev.: Cross. +ԾԻՆԵԱԼ Ի ... Bed 1542V, AE26m, 4.56 g, F+/F \$50

#### Hetoum II (1288-1305), billon

**135. Billon.** Obv.: King's head facing. +ՀԵԹՈՒՄ ԹԱԳԱԽՈՐ. Rev.: Potent cross. +ԱՍԵՆԱՅՆ ՀԱՅՈ. Bed 1580, AR15, 0.6 g, VF+ \$125

#### Hetoum II (1288-1305), copper coins

**136. Kardez,** head. Obv.: Crowned head of king facing. +ՀԵԹՈՒՄ ԹԱԳԱԽՈՐ ՀԱՅՈ. Rev.: Long ornate cross with two bars. +ԾԻՆԵԱԼ Ի ՔԱՂԱՔՆ ՄԻ. Bed 1593, AE27, 3.24 g, -VF/VF+ \$50

**137. Kardez,** king seated. Obv.: King seated in oriental fashion. Left hand raised and r. hand hand holding mace which extends over r. shoulder. +ՀԵԹՈՒՄ ԹԱԳԱԽՈՐ. Rev.: Cross with dots in four corners. +ԾԻՆԵԱԼ Ի ՔԱՂԱՔ. Bed 1634, AE23, 3.23 g, -VF \$30

**138. Kardez,** king seated. Obv.: As before. +ՀԵԹՈՒՄ ԹԱԳԱԽՈՐ. Rev.: As before. +ԾԻՆԵԱԼ Ի ՔԱՂԱՔ Ս. Bed 1634V, AE21, 2.82 g, F+ \$30

**139. Three coppers, Kardez,** king seated. F (Bed 1594), F+ (Bed 1623), F+ (Bed 1647V), 3/AE \$60

#### Smpad (1296-1298), silver coin

**140. Tram.** Obv.: King seated on a throne holding cross in his r. hand, mace in l. hand, extending over over shoulder. +ՍՄԱԴՍ ԹԱԳԱԽՈՐ ՀԱՅՈ. Rev.: A

long cross between two lions rampant regardant. +ԿԱՐՈՂՈՒԹՔՆ ԱՍՏՈՒԾՈ. Bed 1663V, AR23, 2.80 g, -F \$125

**141. Tram.** Obv.: As before. +ՍՄԱԴՍ ԹԱԳԱԽՈՐ ՀԱՅՈ. Rev.: As before. +ԿԱՐՈՂՈՒԹ-ՔՆ ԱՍՏՈ. Bed 1661, AR21, 2.59 g. Ex Donabedian coll. F \$200

#### Smpad (1296-1298), copper coins

**142. Kardez.** Obv.: King on horseback walking r. He holds reins with l. hand, extending over his r. shoulder. +ՍՄԱԴՍ ԹԱԳՈՐ ՀԱՅՈՑ. Rev.: A cross with four lilies in four quarters. +ԾԻՆԵԼ Ի ՔԱՂԱՔ ՄԻ. Bed 1702, AE18, 2.04 g, F \$25

**143. Kardez.** Obv.: As before. +ՍՄԱԴՍ ԹԱԳՈՐ ՀԱԼ. Rev.: As before. +ԾԻՆԵԼ Ի ՔԱՂԱՔ Ի. Bed 1715a, AE20, 1.89 g, F+ \$25

#### Gosdantin I (1298-1299), copper coins

**144. Kardez.** Obv.: King standing and facing, wearing crown and royal vestments. He holds an uplifted cross in his l. hand and a sword in his r. +ԿՈՍԱՆԴԻԱՆՈՒ ԹԱԳ. Rev.: Ornate cross with. +ԾԻՆԵԼ ՔԱՂԱՔՆ ՄԻՍ Է. Bed 1732, AE20, 3.26 g, Ex Donabedian coll. F \$130

**145. Kardez.** As before. Bed 1732, AE21, 2.25 g, Ex Donabedian coll. F+ \$200

**146. Kardez.** As before. Bed 1732, AE21, 2.18 g, Ex Donabedian coll. -F/F \$90

**147. Kardez.** Obv.: As before. +ԿՈՍԱՆԴԻԱՆՈՒ ԹԱԳՈ. Rev.: Ornate cross with dots. +ԾԻՆԵԼ Ի ՔԱՂԱՔՆ ՄԻՍ Է. Bed 1733, AE23, 1.76g, -F \$65

#### Levon III (1296-1298), silver coins

**148. Takvorin.** Obv.: King on horseback to r. holding reins with l. hand, and with his r., a cross which extends over his shoulder. Field marks to l. +ԼԵԻՐՆ ԹԱԳՈՐ ՀԱՅՈՑ. Rev.: Lion walking r. and facing r. Cross with single bar behind him. +ԾԻՆԵԼ Ի ՔԱՂԱՔՆ ՄԻՍ Է. Bed 1734, AR21, 2.64g, VF \$55

**149. Takvorin.** Rev. As before. +ԾԻՆԵԼ Ի ՔԱՂԱՔՆ ՄԻՍ Է. Bed 1758, AR20.5, 2.62 g, VF+ \$60

**150. Three (3) takvorins.** VF (Bed 1739), FV+ (Bed 1746, pierced), VF (Bed 1758), 3 coins \$100

**151. Three (3) takvorins.** -VF (Bed 1734), F+ (Bed 1779), F+/F (Bed 1784), 3 coins \$100

**XXX. Fifty (50) takvorins.** Grades F+ to VF+, avg. grade VF. 50 coins \$1250

#### Levon III (1296-1298), copper coins

**152. Kardez.** Obv.: King seated on a bench-like throne, holding cross in r. hand and staff in l., extending over left shoulder. +ԼԵԻՐՆ ԹԱԳՈՐ ՀԱ.

Rev.: Cross with lines in four quarters. +ԾԻՆԵԼ Ի ՔԱՂԱՔՆ. Bed 1813, AE21, 2.78 g, F+ \$35

153. **Kardēz.** Obv.: As before. Rev.: As before. Bed 1814, AE21, 3.11 g, F+ \$30

154. **Kardēz. King's name on both sides.** Obv.: As before. +ԼԵՒԻՆ ԹԱԳՐ. Rev.: As before. +ԼԵՒԻՆ ԹԱԳՐ. Bd 1839, AE20, 2.46 g, F \$25

#### Oshin (1296-1298), silver coins

155. **Coronation tram.** Obv.: King seated on a throne ornamented with lions, wearing crown and royal vestments. He holds a cross with his r. hand and fleur-de-lis with his l. His feet rest on a footstool. Above the fleur-de-lis is a hand with two fingers extended. +ԱԽԾԻՆ ԹԱԳԱՒՈՐ ՀԱՅՈՑ Է. Rev.: A long cross between two lions rampant regardant. +ԱՄՐՈՂՈՒԹԻՔՆ ԱՅ Է. Bed 1843, AR22, 2.86 g, Ex Kapamadjan coll., -EF \$300

156. **Coronation tram.** Obv.: King seated as before but above the fleur-de-lis is an angel instead of a hand with two fingers. +ԱԽԾԻՆ ԹԱԳԱՒՈՐ ՀԱՅՈՑ. Rev.: A long cross between two lions rampant regardant. +ԱՄՐՈՂՈՒԹԻՔՆ ԱՅԻ. Bed 1843, AR22, 2.82 g, Ex Donabedian coll., -VF \$300

157. **Takvorin.** Obv.: King on horseback to r. holding reins with l. hand, and with his r., a mace which extends over his shoulder. Field marks. +ԱԽԾԻՆ ԹԱԳԱՒՈՐ ՀԱՅՈՑ. Rev.: Lion walking r. and facing r. Cross with single bar behind him. +ԾԻՆԵԼ Ի ՔԱՂԱՔ ՍԻՍ. Bed 1865, AR21, 2.28 g, F \$25

158. **Takvorin.** Obv.: As before. +ԱԽԾԻՆ ԹԱԳԱՒՈՐ ՀԱՅՈՑ. Rev.: As before. +ԾԻՆԵԼ Ի ՔԱՂԱՔՆ ՍԻՍ. Bed 1886, AR21, 2.34 g, VF \$50

159. **Takvorin** overstruck in Arabic in the name of Mamluk Sultan, Nasir al-Din Muhammed. Undertype, Obv.: king on horseback riding r. Rev.: Lion walking r. and facing r. Bed 1946, AR20, 2.37 g, Ex Donabedian coll., F \$60

160. **Takvorin** as before. Bed 1946, AR21, 2.42 g, Ex Donabedian coll., F \$60

#### Oshin (1296-1298), copper coins

161. **Pogh.** Obv.: King seated on a bench-like throne, holding cross in r. hand and fleur-de-lis in l. +ԱԽԾԻՆ ԹԱԳԱՒՈՐ Հ. Rev.: Ornamental cross. +ԾԻՆԱԾ Է Ի ՔԱՂԱՔ. Bed 1941V, AE17, 1.03 g, F+ \$30

#### Levon IV (1320-1342), silver coins

162. **Takvorin.** Obv.: King on horseback to r., holding the reins with his l. hand, and with his r. hand a cross extending over his shoulder. +ԼԵՒԻՆ ԹԱԳԱՒՈՐ ՀԱՅՈՑ. Field marks Կ/Մ. Rev.: Lion walking to r. and facing r. A cross with single bar

behind him. +ԾԻՆԵԼ Ի ՔԱՂԱՔ ՍԻՍ. Bed 1951, AR19, 2.52 g, F \$40

163. **Takvorin.** +ԼԵՒԻՆ ԹԱԳԱՒՈՐ ՀԱՅՈՑ. Field marks Կ/Մ. Rev.: As before. +ԾԻՆԵԼ Ի ՔԱՂԱՔՆ Ս. Bed 1954, AR21, 2.19 gm, F \$40

164. **Four (4) Takvorins.** Similar to the preceding. Bed 1953 (-F), 1958 (F), 1986 (-F), 1975 (-F), (VG/-VF). 4 takvorins \$50

165. **Eight (8) Takvorins.** Similar to the preceding. Bed 1957S (VG+), 1965 (F), 1968 (F), 1970 (-F), 1976 (-F), 1978 (F), 1986 (-F), 1991 (-F). 8 takv. \$90

166. **Takvorin** as before but overstruck in Arabic. Bed 2028, AR20, 2.37 g, VG+ \$15

167. **Takvorin** as before but overstruck in Arabic. Bed 2027, AR21, 2.08 g, pierced, F+ \$10

168. **Takvorin** lion turned left. Obv.: As before. +ԼԵՒԻՆ ԹԱԳԱՒՈՐ ՀԱՅՈՑ. Field marks Թ. Rev.: Lion walking to l. and facing l. A cross with single bar behind him. +ԾԻՆԱԼ Ի ՔԱՂԱՔՆ Ի ՍԻՍ. Bed 1994, AR19, 2.28 g, Ex Donabedian coll. VG+ \$150

#### Levon IV (1320-1342), copper coins

169. **Large pogh.** Obv.: King seated on an unusual throne. He is holding in his r. hand a staff, extending over his shoulder, cross in his l. hand. +ԼԵՒԻՆ ԹԱԳԱՒՈՐ ՀԱՅՈՑ. Rev.: Ornate cross. +ԾԻՆԵԼ Ի ՔԱՂԱՔՆ ՍԻ. Bed 2000V, AE21, 2.32 g, Ex Donabedian coll., -VF \$90

170. **Large pogh.** As before. Bed 2000V, AE23, 2.37 g, Ex Donabedian coll., F+ \$60

171. **Large pogh.** As before. Bed 2001, AE20, 2.56 g, Ex Donabedian coll., -VF/F \$75

172. **Large pogh.** As before. Bed 2001, AE20, 2.52 g, Ex Donabedian coll., -F \$40

173. **pogh.** Obv.: King seated on a bench-like throne. He is holding in his r. cross, and fleur-de-lis in his l. hand. +ԼԵՒԻՆ ԹԱԳԱՒՈՐ Հ. Rev.: Cross. +ԾԻՆԵԼ Ի ՔԱՂԱՔՆ. Bed 2010S, AE16, 1.55 g, -F \$40

#### Guy (1342-1344), silver coins

174. **Takvorin.** Obv.: King on horseback to r., holding reins with his l. hand, and with his r. hand a cross extending over his shoulder. Field mark circle (o) in l. and r. fields. +Կ ԹԱԳԱՒՈՐ ՀԱՅՈՑ. Rev.: Lion walking r. and facing r. Behind him a cross with single bar. +ԾԻՆԵԼ Ի ՔԱՂԱՔՆ ՍԻ. Bed 2034, AR21, 2.1 g, -VF \$100

175. **Takvorin.** Rev.: As before. +ԾԻՆԵԼ Ի ՔԱՂԱՔՆ Ս. Bed 2036, AR20, 2.16 g, F+ \$75

#### Gosdantin III (1344-1363), silver coins

176. **Takvorin** struck in Tarsus. Obv.: King on horseback to r. and facing, holding reins with his l.

hand, and with his r. hand a mace extending over his shoulder. Field mark circle (o) in left field. +ԿՈՍՏԱՆԴՆԻՆԻ թԱԳՐ. Rev.: Lion walking r. and facing r. Behind him a cross with single bare. +ԾԻՆԱՆԼ Ի ՔԱՂԱՔՆ ՍԻ. Bed 2044, AR20, 2.38 g, Ex Donabedian coll., -VF/F \$150

**177. Takvorin** struck in Sis. Obv.: As before. +ԿՈՍՏԱՆԴՆԻՆԻ թԱԳ. Rev.: As before. +ԾԻՆԱՆԼ Ի ՔԱՂԱՔՆ ՍԻ. Bed 2059V, AR19, 2.18 g, VF+/-VF \$100

**178. Takvorin** struck in Sis. Obv.: As before. +ԿՈՍՏԱՆԴՆԻՆԻ թԱԳ. Rev.: As before. +ԾԻՆԱՆԼ Ի ՔԱՂԱՔՆ ՍՍ. Bed 2066V, AR20, 2.08 g, F+ \$50

#### Gosdantin III (1344-1363), copper coins

**179. Pogh** struck in Sis. Obv.: King seated on a bench-like throne, holding cross in r. hand, and in his l. a staff which extends over his shoulder. +ԿՈՍՏԱՆԴՆԻՆԻ թԱԳ. Rev.: Cross. +ԾԻՆԱՆԼ Ի ՔԱՂԱՔՆ Ս. Bed 2123S, AE17, 1.03 g, -F/F \$75

#### Levon the Usurper (1363-1365), silvers

**180. Takvorin.** Obv.: king on horseback r., holding reins with his l. hand, and with his r. hand a cross extending over his shoulder. Field mark circle (o) in l. field. +ԼԵՎՈՆ թԱԳԱՍԻՐ ՀԱՅՈ. Rev.: Lion walking to r. and facing r. A cross behind him. +ԾԻՆԱՆԼ Ի ՔԱՂԱՔՆ Ի ՍԻՍ. Bed 2141V, AR21, 2.30 g, F \$50

**181. Takvorin.** Obv.: As before. Dots to r. of king's head, below the mace, and below the cross. +ԼԵՎՈՆ թԱԳԱՍԻՐ ՀԱՅ. Rev.: As before. Dot to r. of the cross. +ԾԻՆԱՆԼ Ի ՔԱՂԱՔՆ Ի Ս. Bed 2146, AR21, 2.19 g, F+ \$80

**182. Takvorin.** Obv.: As before. Dots to r. of king's head, below the mace, and below the horse. +ԼԵՎՈՆ թԱԳԱՍԻՐ ՀԱՅ. Rev.: As before. Dot to left of the cross. +ԾԻՆԱՆԼ Ի ՔԱՂԱՔՆ Ի Ս. Bed 2153V, AR20, 1.82 g, Ex Donabedian coll. -VF \$80

**183. Takvorin.** Obv.: As before. +ԼԵՎՈՆ թԱԳԱՍԻՐ ՀԱՅ. Rev.: As before. Dot to left of the cross. +ԾԻՆԱՆԼ Ի ՔԱՂԱՔՆ ՍԻ. Bed 2157, AR21, 1.78 g, l. F+ \$80

**184. Three (3) Takvorins.** Bed 2142V (F), 2 coins Bed 2151 (F), Ex Donabedian coll., 3 AR \$125

**185. Takvorin** with king's name on both sides. Obv.: As before. Circle (o) below the mace, and below the horse. +ԼԵՎՈՆ թԱԳԱՍԻՐ ՀԱ. Rev.: Lion walking to r. with hairy mane and legs. A cross behind him. +ԼԵՎՈՆ թԱԳԱՍԻՐ ՀԱ. Bed 2163V, AR20, 2.08 g, Ex Donabedian coll. VF \$100

#### Gosdantin IV (1365-1373), silver coin

**186. Takvorin.** Obv.: king on horseback r., holding reins with his l. hand, and with his r. hand a cross extending over his shoulder. Field marks. +ԿՈՍՏԱՆԴՆԻՆԻ թԱԳՐ ՀՈՑ. Rev.: Lion walking to r. and facing r. A cross behind him. Field marks. +ԾԻՆԱՆԼ Ի ՔԱՂԱՔՆ Ի ՍԻՍ. HAR 548/574, AR20, 1.70 g, F+ \$20

**187. Takvorin.** Bed 2190, AR21, 2.18 g, F+ \$20

**188. Takvorin.** Bed 2215V, AR20, 1.63 g, F+/F \$20

#### Levon V (1374-1375), silver coins

**189. Billon.** Obv.: King's head facing. +ԼԵՎՈՆ թԱԳ. Rev.: Potent cross. +ԱՌՈՐ ՀԱՅՈՑ. Bed 2237, AR14, 0.46 g, -VF/VF \$200

**190. Billon.** Obv.: King's head facing. +ԼԵՎՈՆ թԱԳԱՍԻՐ. Rev.: Potent cross. +ԱՌՈՐՈՂՈՒԹԵՐ ՆՑ. Bed 2238 (cited in Bed. CCA), AR14, 0.68 g, Ex Donabedian coll. F \$150

#### Levon V (1374-1375), copper coins

**191. Pogh.** Obv.: Lion of Cyprus walking r. +ԼԵՎՈՆ թԱԳԱՍԻՐ. Rev.: Cross. +ԱՍԵՆԱՅՆ ՀԱՅՈՑ. Bed 2243, AE16, 0.70 g, -F \$35

**192. Pogh.** As before. AE16, 0.78 g, VG+ \$25

#### Raymond Roupen of Antioch (1201-1222), nephew of king Levon I, silver coins

**193. Billon.** Obv.: Helmeted bust l. Star in r. field and crescent in l. field. +RVPINVS. Rev.: Cross, crescent in 1st quarter. +AMTIOCHIA. Schlumberger Pl. III, No. 9, Metcalf Pl. 13, No. 327. AR18, 0.79 g, -VF \$50

**194. Billon.** Similar to the preceding. AR18, 0.71 g, F/VF \$50

**195. Three (3) billons.** Similar to the preceding. F, F/F+, F, 3 billons \$100

#### USSR Commemorative Coins

**196. Armenian earthquake** coin, 3 rubles cupro-nickel, prooflike, 1989, display case \$15

**197. Matenadaran of Yerevan**, 5 rubles cupro-nickel, prooflike, 1990.

a. With government mint display package \$25  
b. With mint plastic envelope (sealed) \$22

**198. One thousand year Christianity in Russia**, 3 cupro-nickel 5 ruble coins, 1988, prooflike, display case \$75

#### BANK NOTES

##### Republic of Armenia (1918-1920)

**199. Republic of Armenia (1919)**, 10 rubles, BNA III.16.a, Pick S660, VF+ \$24











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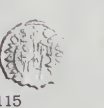
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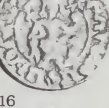
119



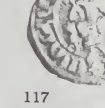
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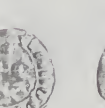
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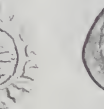
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200. Republic of Armenia (1919), 10 rubles, BNA III.16.c, Pick S660, EF to VF \$25
201. Republic of Armenia (1919), 10 rubles, BNA III.16.c, Pick S660, VF \$22
202. Republic of Armenia (1919), 10 rubles, BNA III.16.d, Pick S660, error ....EHAFO, VF \$30
203. Republic of Armenia (1919), 100 rubles, BNA III.19.b, Pick S663, VF \$30
204. Republic of Armenia (1919), 100 rubles, BNA III.27.b, Pick S667, VF \$27
205. Republic of Armenia (1919), 250 rubles, BNA III.28.a, Pick S669, VF to F \$20
206. Republic of Armenia (1919), 1000 rubles, BNA III.30.a, Pick S672d, EF \$33
207. Republic of Armenia (1919), 1000 rubles, BNA III.30.d, Pick S672, VF \$20
208. Republic of Armenia (1920), 250 rubles, BNA III.34.b, Pick S672d, AU \$50
209. 50 ruble note. Obv.: brown allegorical dragons on the r. and l. Rev.: value denomination. 125x80 mm. In Armenian, French, and Russian. Watermarked, BNA III.36, Pick S675. UNC \$20
210. 100 ruble note. Obv.: Green doves appear in the upper l. and the upper r. At the bottom is twin peaked Mt. Ararat. Rev.: Green eagle in the middle. Wtmrkd, BNA III.37, Pick S676. UNC \$25
211. 250 ruble note. Obv.: purple allegorical dragons on the top. Victory flanks the bank note on the l. and r. Rev.: purple colored maiden behind a spinning wheel; golden halo surrounds her hair. At the bottom are two dragons. Watermarked, BNA 38, Pick 677, UNC \$30
- Erevan City Notes (1920)**
212. Erevan City, 1 ruble, the coat of arms of Erevan stamped on the reverse. BNA.VI.1.a., hinge mark, UNC \$60
213. Erevan City, 10 rubles, the coat of arms of Erevan stamped on the reverse. BNA.VI.4.a., hinge mark, UNC \$60
- Socialist Soviet Republic of Armenia (1923)**
214. 5,000 r., BNA.XII.2.a, Pick S679, VF+ \$40
215. 10,000 r., BNA.XII.3.b, Pick S680b, VF+ \$23
216. 5,000,000 r., BNA.XII.9.b, PickS685b, F+ \$40
217. 1 chervonetz. Obv.: black coat of arms of SSR of Armenia, two peacocks. Rev.: Peasant ploughing with a team of oxen. Trees, Mt. Ararat, a house all in green. Wtmrkd, BNA XII.10, U.P. PickS687, AU \$200
218. 1 chervonetz as above, BNA XII.10, U.P.Q., Pick S687, AU \$200

- USSR Notes, values are also printed in Armenian**
219. 3 rubles, 1961, green-violet, P223, VF \$2
220. Same, F \$1
221. 20 Kopeks, 1971 or 1962 \$1
- Transcaspien Provisional Government denomination on reverse printed in Armenian**
222. 5 rubles, Pick S1141, VF \$12
- BANK NOTES AND COINS Republic of Armenia (1993)**
223. Includes 10, 25, 50, 100, 200 drams, bank notes, UNC, 5 pieces \$32
224. Includes 500 drams, bank note, UNC \$16
225. Includes 10, 25, 50, 100, 200, 500 drams, bank notes, UNC, 6 pieces \$46
226. Includes 10, 20, 50 Luma, and 1, 3, 5 dram coins, UNC, 6 pieces (postpaid) \$7
227. Includes 10 dram coin, UNC (postpaid) \$7
228. Includes 10, 20, 50 Luma, and 1, 3, 5, 10 dram coins, UNC, 7 pieces (postpaid) \$14
- POSTAGE STAMPS Armenia (1918-1923)**
229. 25 different assorted stamp packet \$5.65
230. 50 different assorted stamp packet \$16.15
231. 100 different assorted stamp packet \$36.75
- Cilicia (1914-1918)**
232. 10 different assorted stamp packet \$1.15
233. 25 different assorted stamp packet \$2.35
234. 50 different assorted stamp packet \$9.40
235. 100 different assorted stamp packet \$49.00
- Republic of Armenia (1992)**
236. AT&T, international telecommunication, each stamp \$5.5
237. One set of 3 stamps, Mt. Ararat and Armenian flag, includes 0.20, 2.00, 5.00 units \$8.5
238. Same as above, but one full sheet, contains 20 sets of each 3 denominations \$115
239. First day of cancellation (FDC), includes stamps listed above \$10
240. Same as above, but one full sheet, contains 15 sets of each 4 denominations \$125
241. First day of cancellation (FDC), includes 4 stamps listed above \$11.25

242. Souvenir sheet, commemoration of the 175th anniversary of the birth of the famous Armenian artist Hovhannes Aivazovsky, 7.00 units (post pd) \$5.75

#### Republic of Armenia (1993)

243. Culture issue (4 stamps), 0.40, 0.80, 3.60, 5.00 units (post paid) \$5.5

244. FDC, Culture issue (4 stamps), 0.40, 0.80, 3.60, 5.00 units, (post paid) \$8.25

245. David of Sassoun souvenir sheet, 12.00 units (post paid) \$9.5

246. Landscapes issue (5 stamps), 0.40, 0.80, 3.60, 5.00, 12.00 units (post paid) \$5.5

247. FDC, Landscapes issue (5 stamps), 0.40, 0.80, 3.60, 5.00, 12.00 units (post paid) \$8.25

248. Philatelic exhibition issue (1 stamp), no unit printed on stamp (post paid) \$2.25

249. FDC, Philatelic exhibition issue (1 stamp), no unit printed on stamp (post paid) \$6.75

250. Philatelic exhibition issue, Souvenir sheet (6 stamps), no unit printed on stamp (post paid) \$9.5

251. Definitive issue (3 stamps), 1.00, 3.00, 20.00 units (post paid) \$2.25

#### Republic of Mountainous Karabagh (1993)

252. Medium size booklet: 1 set of stamps, FDC, 1 perforated and 1 imperf souvenir sheet \$60

253. Full size booklet: 1 set of stamps, FDC, 1 perf and 1 imperf souvenir sht, 1 set sheetlet of 8 stamps \$150

254. 1 sheet set of stamps \$325

255. 1 perforated souvenir sheet (postpaid) \$10

256. 1 imperforated souvenir sheet (postpd) \$16

257. 1 set of sheetlet of 8 stamps \$70

#### Stamps Relating to Armenia and Armenians

258. St. Nerses Shnorhali stamps issued by Vatican, set of three \$6.5

259. St. Nerses Shnorhali stamps issued by Vatican but corner block of four for three sets \$32.5

260. Stamps of Soviet Armenia: One of each, M. Sarian, Erebouni, Lenin Square, Etchmiadzin, D. Anghaght, A. Khachadourian, Matenadaran, W. Saroyan \$10

261. Corner block of four: One of each Soviet Armenia stamps of M. Sarian, Erebouni, Lenin Square, Etchmiadzin, D. Anghaght, A. Khachadourian, Matenadaran, W. Saroyan \$60

262. W. Saroyan, USSR, full sheet of 50 stmps \$60

263. William Saroyan, USA-USSR, Balloon cover, Balloon Post Yerevan-Leninakan \$35

264. USSR, for Armenian earthquake victims, one full sheet, contains nine blocks of four (M) \$60

265. USSR, for Armenian earthquake victims, FDC, Moscow cancellation, consists of 3 envelopes \$8

266. Republic of Cyprus, Armenian earthquake stamp first day cover (FDC) \$5

267. Armenian Genocide Cachet-Cover (1990) Issued by Greater Detroit 75th Commemoration Committee (Proceeds to ArmNS), postpaid \$2.5

#### Medals and Key Chains

268. St. Vartan cathedral consecration silver medal with English inscription, 38 mm, 35.46 g, 1968 \$60

269. Same as above, inscription in Armenian \$60

270. Komitas centennial silver medal, 38 mm, 34.75 g, 1969 \$75

271. Komitas medal, 57 mm, 95 to 98 g, reverse 3 cranes and signature [1966] \$25

272. 75th anniversary of the Armenian Church in America, 44 mm, 52.87 g, 1973 \$100

273. Same as above but in bronze \$30

274. Muron (holy oil) blessing medal. Rev. Holy Etchmiadzin, 39 mm, 51 g., dated ՌՄԺԸ according to Armenian date (1418=1969) \$25

275. Armenia-Los Angeles commemorative medal, bronze, 62 mm, 69.3 g, 1977, Temple of Garni \$8

276. Part of same series, Etchmiadzin \$8

277. Part of same series, Zvartnots \$8

278. Part of same series, Yerevan's Armenian Memorial Monument for 1915 victims \$8

279. Part of same series, David of Sassoun \$8

280. Part of same series, Government House \$8

281. Set of six Armenia-Los Angeles medals \$45

282. 75th anniversary of AGBU, 2" diameter, 3/8" thick, 3.6 oz \$30

283. Nuarsag treaty medal, 150th anniversary, 1 5/8" diameter, solid silver, 30 g \$60

284. Same as above but in bronze, 1984 \$20

285. Fresno Numismatic Society 45th anniversary (1946-91) medal "honoring Fresno's Armenian heritage" and displaying David of Sassoon statue sculpted by Varaz. 22.12 g, 38 mm, gold plated copper. \$8

286. As above but in silver, 31.91 g, 38 mm \$38



287. Key chain, **Tigranes** the Great coin replica \$5  
 288. Key chain, **Homenutmen**, Arm. scouting \$5  
 289. Key chain, **Partsratsir-partsratsour** \$5  
 290. Key chain, **Boghos Nubar Pasha** \$5  
 291. Key chain, **Hopenutmen** of AGBU \$5

### Armenian Antiquities

292. Silver book cover: Crucifixion with some other religious figure on the upper side. Inscription: 8 իՃԱՏԱԿ Է ԽԱՆԱՐԱՎԱՏԻՆ, second line, ՈՐ ԵՏ ՄԲ ԳԵՐՈՂԱՍ. From diamond tips 90.2x90.4 mm, 90.74 g, very attractive \$750  
 293. Silver book cover: Altar design. 82x125 mm, 44.35 g, very attractive \$500  
 294. Silver book cover: Silver plaque. 70x91 mm, 30.15 g, nice patina \$350  
 295. Silver humidor made by the silversmiths of Van. "Mayr Hayastan" design on the top cover. Floral design at the bottom. Work of 19th century. Inside the top cover, an oval stamp reads "ՎԱՆ". Next to it a circular seal displays the head of a boy to right. Inside the box, an oval seal displays "Ե", the head of a boy to right, 84." Metrology: 10cm x 7cm x 1.8cm, 126.1 grams. Extremely attractive \$1250  
 296. Armenian ornamental brass work, door knob. 38 x 42 mm, spiral broken, nice patina \$100  
 297. **Armenian Manuscript Pages with and without Miniature Illumination in Color.** Title and scribe unknown. According to a scholar of Armenian manuscripts and *Armenian Encyclopedia*, it is a lectionary, the letters are called "Bolorgir" and belong to the 12th to 13th century. Paper size: 15x 10 inches, double column. Each illuminated page of this **Haysmavourk** includes two types of illuminations: marginal and initial type. Excellent for framing, 1 sheet with illuminations, total 2 sheets/ 4 pages of inscription. \$200  
 298. **Armenian Manuscript** as before with 1, illuminations, 4 sheets/4 pages of inscription. \$225  
 299. **Armenian Manuscript** as before with 1 illuminations, 2 sheets/4 pages of inscription. \$175  
 300. **Armenian Manuscript** as before with 1 illuminations, 2 sheets/4 pages of inscription. \$175  
 301. **Armenian Manuscript** as before with 1 illuminations, 3 sheets/3 pages of inscription. \$200  
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 N2. **BEDOUKIAN, Paul Z.** *Coinage of the Artaxiads of Armenia*, London, 1978, 81 pp., 8 pls., cl. \$25  
 N3. **BEDOUKIAN, Paul Z.**, *Coinage of the Artaxiads of Armenia - Արտաշեսյան խորհրդանշան դրամները*, Vienna, 1983, 52+36 pp., 8 pls., cloth, text in Armenian \$50  
 N4. **BEDOUKIAN, Paul Z.**, *Armenian Coins and Medals*, New York, 1971, 24 pp., illus, card cov. \$2  
 N5. **BEDOUKIAN, Paul Z.**, *Coinage of Cilician Armenia*, New York, 1962, ANS NNM 147, 494 pp., 48 pls., card covers \$70  
 N6. **BEDOUKIAN, Paul Z.**, *Coinage of Cilician Armenia - Կիլիկյան Հայաստանի դրամները*, Vienna, 1963, 496 pp., 48 pls., 128 pp. text in Armenian, corpus and plates in English \$50  
 N7. **BEDOUKIAN, Paul Z.**, *Eighteenth Century Armenian Medals Struck in Holland*, Venice, 1978, in Arm. with English summary \$2  
 N8. **BEDOUKIAN, Paul Z.**, *Roman Coins and Medallions Relating to Armenia - Հայաստանի վերաբերեալ հռոմեական դրամներ և մեդալիոններ*, Vienna, 1971, 212 pp., 38 pls., illus., card cov. \$25  
 N9. **BEDOUKIAN, Paul Z.**, *Thirty Centuries of Armenian Metal Art*, New York, 1978, 24 pp, illus. \$2  
 N10. **CRAWFORD, Michael H.** *Roman Republican Coinage*, London, 1975, Vol. I 579 pp., Vol. II 328 pp., 62 tables, 80 pls., 5 line drawings, cloth \$275  
 N11. **DASHIAN, J.** *Coinage of Arsacids - Արշակունի դրամները*, Vienna, 1919, 1960, 2 vols. 381 pp., soft cover \$30  
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 N15. *Handes Amsorya*, Festschrift 1887-1987, includes six articles (138 pages) on Armenian numismatics, in Armenian, French, English, 976 pp, soft covers 130  
 N16. *Handes Amsorya*, 1993, includes 3 articles (106 pp.) on Armenian numismatics by Kh. A.

Mousheghian, in Armenian, Russian, English, 272 pp., soft covers \$110

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N19. MOUSHEGHIAN, Kh. A. *The Monetary Circulation in Armenia from the Beginning to Tenth Century A.D.* - Դրամական շրջանառությունը Հայաստանում սկզբից մինչև Ժ. դար Զ.Բ.ի (in Armenian), Vienna, 1979, 280 pp., illus., card covers \$25

N20. NEWMAN, Eric. *The Early Paper Money of America*, 1967, 360 pp., cloth \$10

N21. *Numismatic Chronicle*, London, 1987, 198+xxxiii pp., 27 pls \$25

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N23. *Numizmatika i Epigrafika* - Нумизматика и Эпиграфика, Vol. XV (1989), 184 pp., cloth \$15

N24. PETROWICZ, Alexander von. *Arsaciden-Münzen*, Graz, 1968, reprint, 206 pp., 25 pls., cl. \$35

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N26. SEKOULIAN, Au. *Coinage of Gosdantin III to Levon V in Vienna Mekhitarist Museum - Վիեննայի Մխիթարեան թանգարանի Կոստանդին Գ.-Լևոն Ե. դրամները*, Vienna, 1971, 90 pp., 7 pls., cc (in Armenian) \$15

N27. SEKOULIAN, Au. *Numismatic Studies: Hetoum II, Levon III, and Oshin* - Դրամագիտական պրպտություններ Հեթում Բ., Լևոն Գ. և Օշին, Vienna, 1982, 102 pp., 9 pls., card covers \$15

N28. SIBILIAN, Clement. *Classification of Roup-enian Coins* - Դասավորություն Ռուբենեան դրամոց, Vienna, 1892, 88+10 pp., illus., card covers (in Armenian) \$50

N29. VASMER, Richard. *Chronicle der arabischen Statthalter von Armenian under den Abbasiden, von as-saffach biz zur Krönung Aschot I, 750-887*, Vienna, 1931, 118, pp., soft covers \$15

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N31. WELTER, G. and SCHULMAN, H. *Cleaning and Preservation of Coins and Medals*, New York, 1976, 117 pp., cloth \$12

## Armenian Numismatic Society Special Publications and Journal

SP1. BEDOUKIAN, Paul Z. *Selected Numismatic Studies*. Los Angeles, 1981, 570 pp., 72 pls. cl. \$35

SP2. NERCESSIAN, Y. T. *Attribution and Dating of Armenian Bilingual Trans.* Los Angeles, 1983, 36 pp., 12 pls. card covers \$6.75

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SP5. BEDOUKIAN, Paul Z. *Armenian Coin Hoards*. Los Angeles, 1987, 64 pp., 6 pls., card covers \$8

SP6. NERCESSIAN, Y. T. *Bank Notes of Armenia*. Los Angeles, 1988, 224 pp., 192 pls, casebound \$30

SP7. BEDOUKIAN, Paul Z. *A Hoard of Copper Coins of Tigranes the Great and a Hoard of Artaxiad Coins*. Los Angeles, 1991, 30 pp., 2 pls., card covers \$5.5

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ANJ. *Studies in Honor of Dr. Paul Z. Bedoukian* (the Bedoukian volume), *Armenian Numismatic Journal*, Series I, Vol. XV (1989), 192 pp, illus, card cov. \$30

ANJ. Volumes I-V (1975-1979), cloth bound (one month bindery time) \$82.5

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ANJ. Volumes XVI-XX (1990-1994), cloth bound (one month bindery time) \$70

## Miscellaneous Armenology Books

A1. BEDOUKIAN, Paul Z. *Armenian Books: Early Printing*, New York, 1975, 24 pp, card covers \$2

A2. MINASIAN, M. *The Armenian Alphabet*, New York, 12"x14", 154 pls., cloth \$30

A3. PETROSIAN, Tigran. *Petrosian's Legacy*, preface by Gary Kasparov, 124 p., c/c, 1990 \$12

A4. ԱՄՆՈՒՑԱՆ, Հ. Լիակատար քերականություն հայոց լեզվի, Երևան, 1955, 656 էջ, լրկվմ, գրծ \$15

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**A7. ԲԱՐՆՈՒԴԱՐՑԱՆ, Ս. Գ. Դիվան հայ վիճարկության, Բ, Երևան, 1980, 240 էջ, լթկգ, գրծ \$8**

**A8. ԴԱՆԻԼԵԱՆ, Ժիրայր. Հայ ճոր պարերական ժամույլ, 1987-1981, Ղլշրթ, 1984, 184 էջ, խ/կ \$15**

**A9. ԻՆՎՈՑԵՆԱՆ, Վսլայեակ. Ընդհատ ճշումներ, Ղլշրթ, 1971, 180 էջ, խաւաքարտ կողք \$5**

**A10. ԹԻՐԵԱՔԵԱՆ, Յ. Համասեր և կրկնակ խումբեր, Վիեննա, 1923, խաւաքարտ կողք գրծ \$4**

**A11. ԾԵՄՇԵՄԵԱՆ, Սահակ. Զարդապարտեան դարդը մը Ս. Ղազարու մէջ ԺԸ. դարուն, Վենետիկ, 1981, 81 էջ, 13 տախտակ, խաւաքարտ կողք \$15**

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**B21. ՏՈՒՆԿԵԱՆ, Գրիգորիս. Գուգ ճաւապետի վարուց և աշխարհքի բոլորտիքն ըրած երեք ճամբորդութեանց պատմութիւնը, 1857, 100 էջ, թղկգմ \$8**

## Dictionaries and Encyclopedias

**D1. Armenian Encyclopedia-Հայկական սովետական հանրագիտարան, Yerevan, cloth**

**Vol. 8, 1982, 720 pp. \$45**

**Vol. 9, 1983, 720 pp. \$45**

**Vol. 10, 1984, 736 pp. \$40**

**Vol. 11, 1985, 720 pp. \$40**

**Vol. 12, 1986, 751 pp. \$35**

**Vol. [13] 1987, 688 pp. \$35**

**Volumes 1 to 12 and supplement [13], a complete set in uncirculated state (A) \$600**

**D2. Haigazian Dictionary - Նոր Բառգիրք հայկազեան լեզուի, Vol. I 1140 pp., 1979, Vol. II 1067 pp., 1981, Yerevan reprint, cloth. \$100**

**D3. Praktische Grammatik der Armenischen Sprache, von C. Kainz, Leipzig, 1800? cloth \$10**

**D4. Ժամանակակից հայոց լեզվի բացատրական բառարան, Բ հոդ, Երևան, 1972, 720 էջ, լթկգմ \$20**

**D5. English Armenian Dictionary, edited by H. H. Chakmakjian, 1326 pp, bound, reprint \$55**

## History

- H1. ADONTZ, N. *Armenia in the Period of Justinian*, (Lisbon, 1970), 530+410 pp., c. cov., uncut. N \$75
- H2. BAUER, E. *Armenia Past and Present*, (New York, 1981), 180 pp., illus. b/w and color, cl. N \$35
- H3. CHARANIS, P. *The Armenians in the Byzantine Empire* (Lisbon, 1963), 62 pp., c. cov., used. \$40
- H4. Davis, Leslie A. *The Slaughterhouse Province; An American Diplomat's Report on the Armenian Genocide, 1915-1917*. New York, 1989, illus. cl. \$30
- H5. HOVANNISIAN, R. G. *Armenia on the Road to Independence*; 1918, Berkeley 1969, 364 p, cl. \$42
- H6. HOVANNISIAN, R. G. *The Republic of Armenia, Vol. I, 1918-1919*, Los Angeles, 1971, 547 pp., cloth \$50
- H7. HOVANNISIAN, R. G. *The Republic of Armenia, Vol. II, 1919-1920*, Los Angeles, 1982, 603 pp., cloth \$50
- H8. LYNCH, H. F. B. *Armenia: Travels and studies* (Beirut, 1965), Vol. I 470 pp., Vol. II 512 pp., map, cloth. N \$70
- H9. NAASR. *Recent Studies in Modern Armenian History*, Cambridge, MA, 1971, 141 pp., cloth \$6
- H10. SHNOROKIAN, M.H. *The Armenian Genocide and Rebirth of a Nation*, 1983, 30 pp., soft cov. \$3
- H11. TORIGUIAN, Sh. *The Armenian Question and International Law*, Beirut, 1973 edition, 330 p, cl. \$12
- H12. *Yeghishe*, English translation, 154 pp, cl. \$20
- H13. ԱՎԱԳԵԱՆ, Գ. Ե. *Հայկական ՍՍՀ քնակչությունը*, Երևան, 1975, 304 էջ, կզմծ. N \$18
- H14. ԱՎԱԳԵԱՆ, Արիգ. *Հարավային տեղը*, Երևան, 1977, 412 էջ, կազմուած \$20
- H15. ԱՎԵՏԻՍՅԱՆ, Խ. Ա. *Սովետական Հայաստանի և քնակչության շախմատագրություն*, Երևան, 1987, 200 էջ, կզմծ. N \$15
- H16. ԲԱԲԱՅԱՆ, Լ. Հ. *Դրվագներ Հայաստանի վաղ ֆեոդալիզմի դարաշրջանի պատմագրության*, Երևան, 1971, 180 էջ, կազմուած. N \$4
- H17. ԳԱՐԻԻԵԼՅԱՆ, Հ. Ե. *Մարգարտյա Սևան*, Երևան, 1980, 136 էջ, կազմուած \$4
- H18. ԳԱՆՁԱԿԵԾԻ Կիրակոս. *Հայոց պատմություն* (Երևան, 1982), 352 էջ, կզմծ. N \$18
- H19. ԳՈՒՇԱԿԵԱՆ, Թորգոմ. *Հնդկահայք*, 1941, 382, խառաքարտ կողք \$10
- H20. ԵՂԻԾԵ. *Վասն վարդաճալ և հայոց պատերազմի*, 1968, 194 էջ, թղթակազմ \$7
- H21. ԶՈՀՐԱԲԱՆ, Է. Ա. *Սովետական Ռուսաստանը և հայ-թուրքական հարաբերությունները 1920-1922 թթ.*, Երևան, 1979, 344 էջ, կզմծ. N \$20
- H22. *Երևանի պետական համալսարան*, 1981, 324 էջ, խառաքարտ կողք \$6
- H23. Թեոփանես Խոստովանող, Երևան, 1983, 364 էջ, լաթակազմ \$16
- H24. ԹԱՌՈՒՑԱՆ, Կ. Զ. *Արևմտահայերի ազատագրական պայքարը XIX դարի վերջերին և XX դարի սկզբներին*, Երևան, 1980, 210 էջ, կզմծ. N \$14
- H25. ԿՑՈՒՂԵՆԿՅԱՆ, Ռ. Վ. *Հայ-Պորտուգալական հարաբերություններ*, Երևան, 1986, 358 էջ, լթկզմ. N \$20
- H26. ՀԱՍՐԱԹՅԱՆ, Մ., Ս. Ֆ. ՕՐԵՇՆՈՎԱ, Յու. Ա. ՊԵՏՐՈՍՅԱՆ. *Թուրքիայի պատմության ուղիվ-գծեր*, Երևան, 1986, 404 էջ, լաթակազմ \$7
- H27. ՀԱՍՐԱԹՅԱՆ, Մ. *Պատմա-հնագիտական ուսումնասիրություններ*, Երևան, 1985, 280 էջ, լթկզմ \$9
- H28. ՀՈՎՀԱՆՆԻՍՅԱՆ, Մ. Լ. *Ուրվագծեր Հին հայաստանի և արևմտյան Ուկրաինայի հայկական գաղթականների պատմության*, Երևան, 1977, 218 էջ, կզմծ. N \$12
- H29. ՄԱԹԵՎՈՍՅԱՆ, Ռ. Ի. *Տաշիր Զորագետ*, Երևան, 1982, 156 էջ, թղթակազմ \$7
- H30. ՄԵԼԻՔՈՒՄՅԱՆ, Ս. *Հայկական ՍՍՀ տնտեսական կենտրոն*, Երևան, 1979, 172 էջ, կզմծ. N \$15
- H31. ՄՈՎՍԵՍՅԱՆ, Ղևոնդ. *Լոռիի Կիրիկեան թագավորներու պատմությունը*, Վիեննա, 1923, 93 էջ, թղկզմ \$8
- H32. ՄԱՆԱՆԴՅԱՆ, Հակոբ. *Երկեր*, Ե., Երևան, 1984, 616 էջ, լաթակազմ \$25
- H33. ՄԱՆԱՆԴՅԱՆ, Երկեր, Զ., Երևան, 1984, 386 էջ, լաթակազմ \$18
- H34. ՈՒԼՈՒԲԱԲՅԱՆ, Բագրատ. *Զրուցարան*, Երևան, 1991, 672 էջ, կազմուած \$10
- H35. ՍՄԲԱՏ ՍՊԱՐԱՊԵՏԻ *Տարեգիրք*, Վենետիկ, 1956, 269 էջ, թղթակազմ \$25
- H36. ՍՏԵՓԱՆՅԱՆ, Յ. Հայկական դրոշակներ և զինանշաններ, թղթակազմ: *Վերստպուած հայ թերթի մը յօդուածաշարքէն Լուսապատենը գիրքի նման ձևաւորած է: Փոստ \$1.25 (ANS)* \$3
- H37. Վազգեն Հայրապետ հայոց, գիրք երկրորդ, Էջմիածին, 1968, 318 էջ, կազմուած \$8
- H38. ՎԱՐԴԱՆՅԱՆ, Հ. Գ. *Արևմտահայերի ազատագրության հարցը և հայ հասարակական-քաղաքական հոսանքներ XIX դ. վերջին քառորդում*, 1967, 354 էջ, կզմծ. N \$20



H39. ՖԵՐԵՆԱԼ Ա. Հաւատաքննութեան գաղտնիք-  
ները, Կ. Պոլիս, 1914, 299 էջ, կողքը պակաս \$6

### Literature, Poetry, Novel, Fiction

L1. GRANIAN, Puzant. *My Land, My People*, Los Angeles, 1978, 146 pp., card covers \$7

L2. OSHAGAN, Vahé. *The English Influence on Western Armenian Literature in the Nineteenth Century*, Cleveland, 1982, 53 pp., card covers \$4

L3. TOUMANIAN, Hovhannes. *The Bard of Loree*, London, 119 pp., cloth \$6

L4. ԱՆԴՐԻՆԵՎ, Լեոնիդ. Երկեր, Երևան, 1985, 360 էջ, լաթակազմ \$3

L5. ԱՆԴՐԻՆՈՒՄ, Խոնա. Գալլի հետքերով և թիմուր ԳԱՅԴԱՐ. Աֆղանիստանի երկնքի տակ, Երևան, 1986, 344 էջ, կազմուած \$3

L6. ԳԱԼԷՄԱՐԵԱՆՆԱՆ, Զարուհի. Օրեր և դէմքեր, 1985, 417 էջ, ձօնուած, լաթակազմ \$6

L7. ԳԱՐԱԿԷՕՋԵԱՆ, Վաղերես. Կենցեղն գոգա-  
նեռ, Լոս Անճելէս, 1981, 151 էջ, խփրտէ կողք \$6

L8. ԳԵՕԹԷ. Նորավէպեր, Գաբիռէ, 1953, 362 էջ, խաւաքարտէ կողք \$4

L9. ԴԱՐՏՏԵՆՑ, Խաչիկ. Ռանչապրոցների կանչը, Երևան, 1984, 536 էջ, կազմուած \$10

L10. ԴԱՐՏԱՆ, Զարգանդ. Արծիվ Վասպուրականի, Երևան, 1988, 632 էջ, կազմուած \$10

L11. ԹՈՒՄԱՆԵԱՆ, Յ. Սուտիկ որսկանը, 1981, 16 գունաւոր էջ, խաւաքարտէ կողք \$3

L12. ԹՆԿԸՐՏԱՆ Սոնա. Սահանք, Երևան, 1982, 290 էջ, լաթակազմ \$5

L13. ԽՍԱՀԱԿԵԱՆ, Աւետիք. Արևի մօտ, 20 գունաւոր էջ, խաւաքարտէ կողք \$4

L14. ԼԱՄԱՐԹԻՆ, Ռաֆայէլ, Կ. Պոլիս, 1927, 251 էջ, լաթակազմ \$4

L15. ԼԱՌԻՊՄԱՆ, Գ. Զրասույզ զանգը, Կ. Պոլիս, 1923, 181 էջ, վիրաւոր խաւաքարտ կազմ \$3

L16. ԿՈՒՊՐԻՆ. Սուլամիթ, Կ. Պոլիս, 1922, 96 էջ \$2

L17. ՀԱՄԱԼ. Անդունդին մէջէն, 175 էջ, կողքը պակաս, լաւ վիճակ \$2

L18. ՀԱՅԿ, Վահէ. Հայրենի ծխան, Ա հտր, Ֆրէզնօ 126 էջ, խաւաքարտէ կողք \$6

L19. ՀԱՅԿ, Վահէ. Բ հատոր, Պոսթոն, 1947, 254 էջ, լաթակազմ \$8

L20. ՇԱՀԷՆ, Սեդրակ. Բար թորոս, Պէլրոս, 1967, 51 էջ, ձօնուած \$2

L21. ՏՎԵՆ, Մարկ. Արքայազնը և աղքատը, Երևան, 1980, 24 էջ, կազմուած \$3

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M29. BEREKOVA, A. *Soviet Union Archaeology*, Cambridge, MA, 1966, 178 pp, 27 pls, cloth \$22

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- M35.** Etchmiadzin Album, 1981, 80 color pls., \$10
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- M38.** Ghazarian,Manyana. *Armenian Carpet*, Ereboundi editions, 1988, 288 pp., 200 full rugs pictured in color, 12"x8 5/8", heavy duty cloth binding \$50
- M39.** GRIGORIAN, Artsvin. *Sovremenniaa arkhitektura Armenii*, Yerevan,1983,18 p, illus, in Rus., cl \$6
- M40.** GRIGORIAN, G. *Album*, Yerevan, 1983, 46 pls., b/w and color, in Armenian, Russian and English, cl \$10
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- M44.** HOVHANNISSIAN, Cobstantine. *The Wall Paintings of Ereboundi*, in Armenian, Russian, English, Yerevan, 1973, 84 pp. text, 58 color pls., 23x30cm, cloth \$100
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## Periodicals

**P1.** *Բազմալեզ-Բաշմաթեթ*. 1974, Nos. 3-4; 1975, Nos. 1-4, each quarterly issue. \$7

**P2.** *Բանբեր Երեւանի Համալսարանի- Banber Erevani Hamalsarani*. 1900, #3; 1991, # 1; each issue. \$6

**P3.** *Լրաբեր հասարակական գիտությունների Լրաբեր Hasarakakan Gitut'yunneri*. 1966, Nos. 1-2; 1979, Nos. 2-6, 8-12; 1980, Nos. 1, 2, 4-10, 12. Each monthly issue \$2

**P4.** *Հայրենիք Ամսագիր-Hairenik Monthly*. Cloth bound in gray binding, the logo of periodical is printed on the cover. Some of the early issues are scarce and very hard to find. It will make an excellent addition to the library of a discriminating collector who is interested in periodicals.Vol:

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*Bulletin No. 17*  
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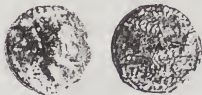


## Artaxiad dynasty coins

**Tigranes II the Great (95-55 B.C.), copper coins**  
303. Obv.: Bust of Tigranes. Rev.: **Tyche** as above. To r. downward ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ; l. downward ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΝ/ ΤΙΓΡΑΝΟΥ. Bed 93,  $\text{AE}18$ , 5.15 gm. Clean coin and nice black patina. VF/F+ \$100



304. Young looking Tigranes (large head) with Armenian tiara and comet star. Rev.: **Palm-branch** curved to l. with flower. To r. downward ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ; l. downward ΤΙΓΡΑΝΟΥ.  $\text{AE}16$ , 3.07 g, VF/F 100



The following extremely rare coin of Tigranes III (20-8 B.C.) is being offered on consignment. P

305. Obv.: Bust of Tigranes r., beardless, wearing a high five-pointed Armenian tiara adorned with a large eight-pointed star without eagles. Rev.: King driving biga with galloping horses to l. He is holding reins with l. hand and palm with r. Legend above to r. ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ / ΜΕΓΑΛΟΥ; below to r. ΤΙΓΡΑΝΟΥ. Bed 141,  $\text{AE}21$ , 6.39 g, VG+/F+ \$600



## Commagene coins

306. Antiochus IV (A.D. 38-72). Obv.: Bust of Antiochus r., beardless, diademed. Clockwise legend BACI ANTIOXOC. Border of dots. Rev.: Two crossed cornucopiae. Legend above two lines KOM/MA; l. Γ; r. H; below ΝΩΝ. Border of dots. Type BMC p. 107. No. 16V.,  $\text{AE}18$ , 4.35 g. VF \$195



## Roman coins relating to Armenia

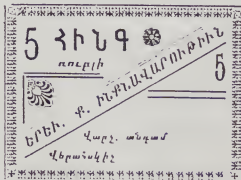
307. Marcus Aurelius, denarius (A.D. 161-180). Obv.: Head r. laur. ANTONINVS AVG ARMENIACVS. Rev.: Armenia std. l. in mournful attitude; before her, vexillum and shield; l. hand rests on bow. ARMENI. P. M. TR. P. XVIII. IMP. II. COS. III. Bed 406, RIC 82, BMC 276, AR17, 3.24 g. VF-VF \$95

308. M. Aurelius denarius as before. Bed 406, AR18, 3.46 g. \$85



## Sassanian coins relating to Armenia

309. Ardashir III, drachm (A.D. 628-630). Obv.: Beard-less bust r. Rev.: Fire altar with two attendants facing front. Rev. inscription in r. margin has is equivalent of ARM (Arminiya), relatively rare, Gobl 225/7, Sellwood 69 (crown 1) AR2, 3.74 g. -VF \$125



## Erevan City Notes (1920)

310. Erevan City, 5 ruble, unsigned and reverse blank. The printer's border ornament has two flowers as in BNA pl. 91a, and crosses in lower two corners. BNA.VI.3.b., AU \$55